



CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE

Thursday, January 2, 1997

"Home of the AuSable River"

50¢

Crawford County residents may have received 'bad' vaccine

*Flu shots not as potent
as supposed to be in area*

by Eric Gaertner
News Editor

Counties surrounding Crawford County have received word that a portion of the flu vaccine administered in the area was not as potent as influenza vaccines are supposed to be.

According to an official with District

"There is nothing to suggest that this recalled vaccine is dangerous to the persons who received it."

-- Dr. David Nolan,
Health and
medical officer

Health Department No. 1, which serves Crawford County, some residents in Crawford County also most likely received an impotent flu shot.

The vaccine batch was found to not be as potent as the other batches by the Federal and Drug Administration (FDA). The vaccine was recalled by the companies and health departments after the FDA tests were completed and results passed on.

The Parke Davis influenza vaccine was the batch recalled by the FDA, but it already had been administered in the area by health departments, doctor's offices and other agencies which provide flu shots.

"There is nothing to suggest that this recalled vaccine is dangerous to the persons who received it," said Dr. David Nolan, health and medical

officer of District Health Department No. 1. "I want to stress that there have been no reports of any problems with those who received the vaccine, so it doesn't look to be dangerous."

Nolan also mentioned that just because the vaccine was recalled does not mean the vaccine was not of some help to the patients who received these flu shots.

Flu vaccine is not 100 percent effective anyway, Nolan said. There is nothing to prove that this was zero effective, so it may have been effective.

"I don't expect a wide break out of flu cases because of these recalled

vaccine," Nolan said.

The vaccines administered to the public are tested by all types of methods by the FDA. One of the tests is done on potency of the vaccine which this batch failed.

It was not all of the vaccines that were used in the area, Nolan said. Not all of it was recall variety.

Nolan estimated that thousands of shots administered were of the recall variety and also thousands not of the recall variety.

There will be some people who received the "bad" vaccine in Crawford County and the surrounding area,

Nolan said, but there is not much which these patients need to do.

There is not much of a reason to find out if a person received some of the recalled vaccine, Nolan said. There would not be time to be revaccinated prior to the flu season.

"We already have received information that the flu is in our area," Nolan said. "It usually lasts a couple of weeks."

Although he said it is not a must, Nolan also mentioned that being revaccinated would not harm anyone.

"I can not say it won't hurt to be revaccinated," Nolan said, "but I can not say it is of particular significance."

The officials have not pin-pointed the exact area of the state which this covers or the exact locations in each area where the recalled vaccine was administered from.

"That I know of, there was at least some of the recalled vaccine in Crawford County, Kalkaska County, Wexford County and Missaukee County," Nolan said. "My best guess is every county received some of the recall batch."

According to Nolan, chances are some of the vaccine which was recalled was used in most locations — from private doctor's offices to health departments.



Kids Count of Michigan dishes out a wide variety of figures for county

by Lisa Hofman
Staff Reporter

When the Kids Count in Michigan report was released it was revealed that Crawford County was in the bottom half of the state in majority of the report's indicators.

The Kids Count in Michigan 1996 Data Book features profiles of child well-being for each of the state's counties and summarizes trends on key measures, such as inadequate prenatal care, low birth-weight babies, infant mortality, child abuse and juvenile arrests.

In the education portion of the report, the Crawford AuSable Schools ranked second, fifth, 79 and 82, out of the 82 counties that reported.

In meeting basic skills requirements on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) test, the fourth grade class from the 1995-96 school year ranked 79 and 82 on their math and reading tests, respectively.

However, the seventh grade class from that same year ranked second in the state on their math test and fifth in the state on their reading test.

"If we're doing this well at the seventh grade level, we must be doing something right," Crawford AuSable Schools Superintendent Kent Reynolds said.

According to Reynolds, Grayling Middle School consistently has heavy campaigns to emphasize to students how important the tests are.

New computer software for the MEAP test is currently being used at the middle and high school level. The program assesses where a student is and directs students through the math and reading program according to their individual skill level.

According to Reynolds, if a student

When looking at the test results for the fourth grade class, Reynolds stated that the transferring of students played a large part in the low test scores.

For the past 20 years Grayling Elementary School students have been transferred to Frederic due to lack of space at GES.

"Four years ago we began coding the test results for those students who were transferred to Frederic," Reynolds said.

According to Reynolds, it was discovered that students who had been in different schools for their third and fourth grade years scored half as well on the MEAP tests as those who had spent their third and fourth grade years in the same school, whether it be Frederic or GES.

According to Reynolds, it did not matter if students spent their third grade year in Frederic and their fourth grade

Continued on page 11A

County board to kick off new year by organizing

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners will be organized Thursday, Jan. 2.

The 1997 organizational meeting for the county board will begin at 10 a.m. at the Crawford County Courthouse. The swearing in of the commissioners and other elected officials will be held prior to the first meeting of the new year at 9:45 a.m. also at the courthouse.

A new face will join the board this year as Lynette Corlew takes her seat as one of the six county commissioners. The other five — Dennis Long, John

Hartman, Kathleen Black, Robert Smock, Jr. and Bruce Bretzke — return for another two-year term.

Some of the items which are decided during the organizational meeting include who will serve as chair and vice-chair for 1997. The current chairman is Bruce Bretzke and the current vice-chairman is Dennis Long.

Committee appoints usually are discussed for the upcoming year. The board also takes care of a number of other "house-keeping" items which the board needs to function throughout the new year.

We're on our way



ALMOST THERE—The Crawford County United Way is nearing its goal of raising \$80,000. The United Way has received donations and pledges for 82 percent of the goal. Jerry Gosnell, co-chairperson of the campaign, updates the goal "thermometer."

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KIWANIS HELPS OUT — Grayling Kiwanis Club President, Toby Shambarger presents a check to Gerry Schroeder, Crawford County Christian Help Center director, for the annual Crawford County Christmas Project which serves people in need.

Commissioners look at union's list of proposals

by Eric Gaertner
News Editor

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners have begun work with the local union for courthouse and court employees to agree upon terms of a new contract.

With the current contract set to expire through 1996, the new three-year contract would extend from 1997-1999. The contract affects Crawford County Courthouse Employees and Crawford County 46th Circuit Trial Court Employees.

The union, chapters of local 2759 Michigan Council 25, sent a proposal with three items to the county commissioners. The commissioners went into executive session at their Dec. 18 board meeting to discuss the proposal.

The first item proposed by the local union involved medical insurance. The proposal states, "The employer agrees to pay the required premiums for employees hired on or before October 31, 1996 and retiring after that date for the above medical insurance."

Although the commissioners agreed with most of the union's contract ideas and proposals, Board Chairman Bruce Bretzke said, this is one the county

commissioners didn't.

These proposals from the union and the decisions are not final, since this was only the first proposal. In the proposal letter to the board, the local union added a statement which reads, "The union reserves the right to add, modify, and/or delete from the above-noted proposals."

The second proposed item from the union involved sickness and accident insurance. Bretzke said the board agreed with this proposal.

This proposed item modifies a portion of the insurance portion of the contract. The item reads, "Employees who are eligible under the insurer's regulations shall receive from the employer's insurance carrier a weekly indemnity payments consisting of seventy percent (70%) of their normal weekly straight-time wages, up to a maximum benefit of three hundred twenty five dollars (\$325) weekly."

Like most contract proposals, the third item focused on employee wages. The proposal from the local union is to add four percent across the board each year of the proposed three-year agreement.

Under the union's proposal, a grade one employee who currently would start out at \$7.12 an hour would get \$7.40 an hour in 1997, \$7.70 an hour in 1998 and \$8.00 an hour in 1999.

According to Bretzke, the board suggested three percent instead of the four percent increase proposed by the union. The three percent wage increase already has been stipulated in the 1997 county budget by the commissioners.

Bank changes announced

Kimberly A. Simpson has joined Empire National Bank as trust officer and portfolio manager.

Simpson has a bachelor's degree in finance and economics from the University of Michigan and is a graduate of the Cannon Financial Institute for advanced trust investments. She comes to Empire with several years' experience in trust portfolio management.

Simpson will be responsible for the direct management of investments for several client accounts.

Empire National Bank operates 10 branches and 11 ATMs in Leelanau, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Crawford counties.

Some defendants out from original lawsuit

by Eric Gaertner
News Editor

A \$500 million lawsuit against some Crawford County officials and some private residents continues, but a portion of the defendants have been dismissed from the case.

For this reason the original \$500 million amount of the lawsuit has decreased, since the lawsuit asked for \$20 million on each count from each defendant. The \$20 million figure was broken down into \$10 million in actual damages and \$10 million in punitive damages.

The suit originally was filed in U.S. District Court in Bay City on May 10, 1995. According to court documents, the civil lawsuit stemmed from a May 10, 1993 incident involving the removal of Laura Ashley Temple from the home of her aunt, Kathy Temple Butler and the physical custody of her father, James O. Temple, Jr. by the Crawford County Sheriff Department.

The original plaintiffs in the case were listed as James O. Temple, Jr., Laura Ashley Temple, Kathy Temple Butler, James Butler and Virginia Temple. After motions were filed by the defendant's attorneys, the court concluded that only James O. Temple, Jr. has standing to bring a claim for deprivation of due process rights. The court still will entertain all plaintiffs' state law trespass claims.

The charges in the case were stated as deprivation of custody and interference with familial relations without due process of the law, intentional infliction of emotional distress, false imprisonment, assault, trespassing and illegal search. Not all of the defendants were charged with all of these counts.

The defendants listed in the initial lawsuit included Crawford County, Crawford County Sheriff Department, Mercy Health Services, River House Shelter, Deputy Sheriff Jimmy Parker, Prosecuting Attorney John Huss, Sheriff David Lovely, Adelita Paz Temple and three employees of River

House.

A motion to dismiss by River House Shelter, Mercy Health Services, Rose Ramsey, Fern Farber and Beth Holzman (the River House defendants) was filed on March 22, 1996. A motion to dismiss and/or for summary disposition by Crawford County, Crawford County Sheriff Department, David Lovely, Jimmy Parker and John Huss was filed on March 25, 1996.

After hearing oral arguments, the court granted the River House defendants' motion to dismiss. Both counts against River House Shelter, Mercy Health Services, Ramsey, Farber and Holzman were dismissed with prejudice.

The court also ruled the motion to dismiss was granted with respect to all claims against Crawford County, Lovely and Huss. It also was granted in part to Parker. All claims against Parker were dropped except for the trespass claim and James O. Temple, Jr.'s individual federal due process claim.

At a later date Sheriff Deputy Arthur Clough was charged in the case after the original suit was filed. His counts also were dismissed by the court.

The following claims survive following the defendants' dismissal motions: the two counts against Parker and all claims against Adelita Paz Temple (the mother in the case), Lois Adams (a River House employee), James Lawless (Department of Social Services worker) and John Hunter (part-time probate judge and private attorney).

James DeGrazia of O'Connor, DeGrazia and Tamm of Bloomfield Hills is the attorney representing Crawford County.

According to DeGrazia, there will be a hearing at the start of 1997 to rule on a motion for summary disposition.

If the defendants' motion is granted, then the whole thing will be dropped, DeGrazia said. By the end of January, both sides will now better where they stand.

Bacterial disease found in some birds

Mycoplasma gallisepticum (MG), a contagious bacterial disease of birds has been confirmed in wild house finches, and could pose an economic threat to Michigan's commercial turkey and chicken industries, announced Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) State Veterinarian Dr. H. Michael Chaddock.

MG has been found in 22 states and Quebec, Canada. The disease was first detected on the East Coast, and has been spreading westward, reaching Michigan and Indiana in 1995. MG does not pose a threat to human health, but people can spread the disease on shoes and clothing. MG is also spread by direct contact among birds and indirectly via inanimate objects where birds may gather, including bird feeders.

Symptoms of MG may include swollen, inflamed eyes with a crusty discharge in wild house finches, and can also cause swollen sinuses in turkeys and decreased egg production and swollen air sacs in chickens. Because the disease can affect chickens and turkeys, those who work on or live nearby poultry farms are advised not to feed wild birds.

"Commercial poultry producers, as

well as hobby farmers, should examine and repair any potential entrance for wild birds in all poultry housing facilities," said Dr. Chaddock. "Those who choose to feed wild birds should also take extra precautions to help prevent the spread of this disease; including placing additional feeders further apart and cleaning them once a week with a solution of one part bleach to 10 parts water."

The diagnosis of MG was made at the Michigan State University Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory in East Lansing on birds collected by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Birds were tested from 17 Michigan counties, including Berrien, Branch, Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, Ionia, Genesee, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kent, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Ottawa, Shiawassee, Washtenaw and Wayne.

"By taking a few extra precautions to help curtail the spread of MG and to protect both commercially and hobby raised poultry flocks, bird lovers will still be able to enjoy the fun and benevolent practice of feeding wild birds, without endangering Michigan's important poultry industry," added Dr. Chaddock.



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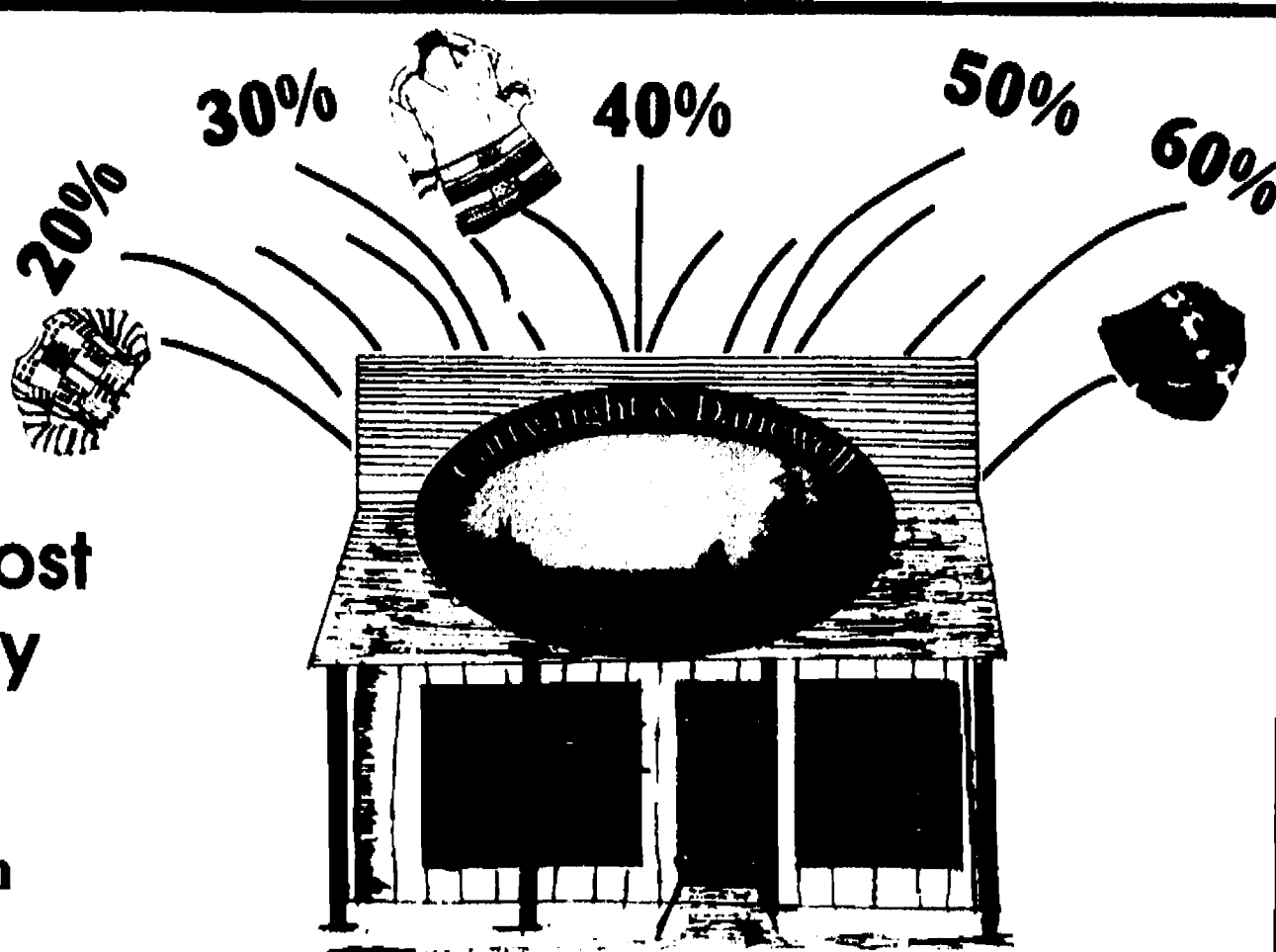
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Building, zoning department had increase in 1996

by Eric Gaertner
News Editor

The three workers in the Crawford County Zoning and Building Department have been extremely busy during the past year.

Director and Zoning Administrator Joseph Duran, who is just finishing up his first year on the job, has seen a dramatic increase in the building and zoning permits petitioned through the department. He also has witnessed an updating of the efficiency of the department during the year.

The Personnel Committee of the Crawford County Board of Commissioners extended an offer in December to Joseph Duran to head the department. By Jan. 4, 1996, he was on the job.

Duran took time to reflect on this past year which saw an increase in business handled by the department.

The first thing which Duran said was of importance was the expansion and organization of the department's facility.

The zoning and building department room space had to be organized first of all, Duran said. If things are not organized, then the department can not be efficient.

The county commissioners wanted to see this be an effective department, Duran said. They supported and funded the project, so the department was able to provide more adequate space to operate more efficiently.

The department was granted an additional 164 square feet of office space.

The department employees also received a new computer for spread sheet work and other items, a copier, fax machine and a typewriter.

"These items allowed better availability for quicker review," Duran said. The contractors and private land owners could receive the results of their building and zoning permits in a quicker fashion.

Another new feature which helped the department grow was the creation

of a new position. The assistant zoning administrator is a new position started in 1996. The assistant zoning administrator is Bruce Leonard.

The department needed this position, Duran said. Now, there is another person which can handle the zoning aspects, so the director can handle the other permits and run the department.

In addition to Duran and Leonard, the other member of the department's staff is Assistant Director and Deputy Zoning Administrator Irene Gildner.

The county also provided for summer clerical help and help for inspections during the summer season. The summer season is the busy part of the building season.

According to Duran, with these important new items during the past year, the department will continue to grow to facilitate growth of work in the county.

One item which shows just how much of an increase the zoning and building department has seen is in the revenue brought in.

Through the month of November, the department had a gross revenue of \$153,413. Duran projected that after December is officially added up, that number will probably be around \$165,000 for the 1996 year.

Prior to this year the highest ever revenue total for a year was \$81,372 in 1994.

According to Duran, the increase can be attributed to the increase in building in Crawford County and the ability of the department to handle it.

Duran predicts that the permits and revenue will continue to grow during 1997. He said this based on the developments which have been brought into the department for next year.

The total amount of permits also are up this year. There were 756 permit applications in 1996 through November. In 1995 through November, there were 606 permit applications. This is an increase of 25 percent.



Joe Duran

Local snowmobile group to host Jan. 11 meeting

With the recent snow fall in the area, Crawford County has seen an increase in the number of snowmobilers riding in the region.

There also has been some accidents — even fatal — which have involved snowmobile operators. Some new rules and regulations face the snowmobilers throughout the state.

For these reasons, the AuSable Valley Snowmobile Association is going to hold a general membership meeting at the River Park Campground on Jones Lake Road.

The meeting is scheduled at the

campground on Saturday, Jan. 11 at 3 p.m. The meeting is open to all AuSable Valley Snowmobile Association members and the general public.

"The primary focus of the meeting is to bring membership up to speed with these new regulations," said Dennis Fyock, vice president of the local snowmobile group. It also will function as a type of membership drive.

Safety also will be an important topic at the meeting, because of the number of snowmobile accidents. That is why the group has invited two law enforcement officials to speak at the gathering.

Crawford County Sheriff's Deputy Bill Bonkowski and Roscommon Department of Natural Resources Officer Mark Lutz will be on hand to discuss snowmobile safety and the new regulations for snowmobilers.

The AuSable Valley Snowmobile Association was formerly called the Greater Grayling Snowmobile Association. The name was changed because the group has grown to include a majority of its members from all parts of Crawford County and parts of northern Roscommon County.

The group's assigned trail responsibility for this year also has grown to range from Roscommon to Frederic. During the 1995-96 winter season, the group groomed 1,630 miles of trail snow, but that number was expected to grow to approximately 2,000 miles for the 1996-97 snowmobile season.

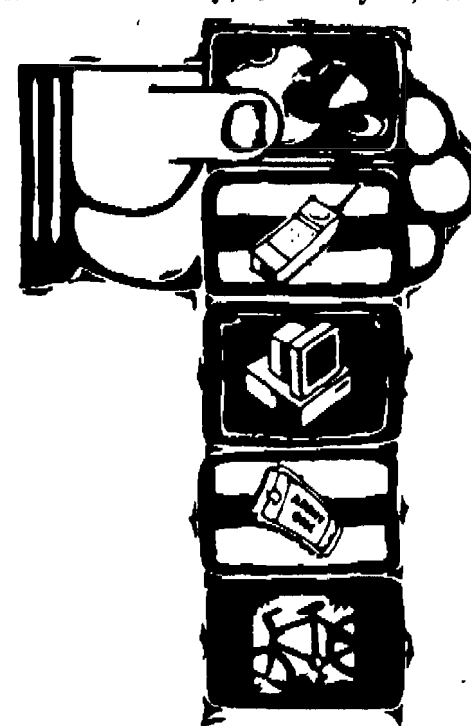
Poetry contest open to all

A \$1,000 prize is being offered in a free poetry contest sponsored by the International Library of Famous Poets. There is no entry fee and everyone is free to enter.

"This is our favorite contest of the year," said Poetry Editor Dr. G. Charles Nash, "because it encourages beginners. We want to find the best grassroots poets among those writing in Michigan, and in the Grayling area in particular."

The deadline for entering is Jan. 28. Poems may be written on any subject, using any style, but please keep copies as none can be returned. Winners will be notified by the end of June.

To enter, send one poem of 21 lines or less to: Free Poetry Contest, 421 N. Rodeo Drive, Suite 15-544, Beverly Hills, CA 90210.



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LAW TAKES OATH — Kalkaska County's and Crawford County's head law enforcement officials were sworn in together Friday, Dec. 27, at the Crawford County Courthouse. Judge Alton Davis, left, administered the oath of office to Crawford County Sheriff David Lovely, middle, and Kalkaska County Sheriff Nelson Cannon.

SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS

By Jan Farley

Special thought for the week: Wish everyone a happy and joyous new year!

Happenings for the first few weeks in the new year: Sunday Brunch on Jan. 5, serving from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with eggs omelet style; Dominoes on Jan. 6 at 5:30 p.m.; a New Year Dance with Tina at 12:30 p.m. on Jan. 7; Commodities day, "BK" Bingo at 12:30 p.m., and Foot Clinic by appointment, all on Jan. 8; and, of course, "Pantry Bingo" will begin on Thursday, Jan. 9 at 1 p.m. and continue each week. There will be a donation requested, not required, of \$1 per card with a limit of six cards per person and, as the name suggests, the prizes will be pantry items with a grand jackpot prize. Come and have fun playing bingo with your friends and neighbors.

Busy times at the Senior Center: We would like to invite everyone to come and have a meal with us or just stop in for coffee. If you haven't

discovered the Senior Center yet, it's time you found out for yourselves how much fun the seniors have with the various activities and programs offered. Stop by or give us a call if you have any questions, need help or just for fun: 308 Lawndale — 348-7123 or toll-free 1-888-355-4500. Remember, if your life isn't becoming to you ... you should becoming to us!

Join us for meals: We serve at noon and 5 p.m. on Monday thru Thursday and at noon on Friday. Vegetable and fruit salad bar on Tuesday. Soup served on Monday and Wednesday. Bread, juice and milk offered each meal. It really is the best deal in town: \$1.50 donation for seniors, and \$3 for those under 60. Please try to make a reservation if you can by calling 348-7123. Menus are subject to change without notice.

Lunch/Dinner

January
2—Brown Steak/Spanish Rice

- 3—Pork Chops/no dinner
- 6—Weiner Schnitzel/Goulash
- 7—Fish/Herbed Chicken
- 8—Hawaiian Ham/Swiss Steak
- 9—Chicken Kiev/Meatballs
- 10—Roast Beef/no dinner

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ISSUES AND OPINIONS



ALMANACK

Richard Milliman

Wit and wisdom from Almanack 1996

THE OLD year swiftly fades, and the New Year looms ... an excellent time to wander among snippets of wit and wisdom from the Almanack in the last 12 months.

FROM A COLUMN on the flat tax: "When listening to arguments about the flat tax — or any change in the tax system, for that matter — keep in mind that if taxes are lowered somewhere in the system, then they must be raised someplace else, if they are to provide the same dollar return. There's no free lunch for everybody in tax reform."

About early primaries: "The main lesson from the primaries and early caucuses is this: Politics is perception, and in the early running for a presidential nomination, perception is much, much more important than substance."

On Michigan's full-time legislature: "This move was designed to produce professionalism in state lawmaking. Admittedly it has resulted in more experts on the legislative payroll, more committees ... several whole buildings full of legislative offices, more staff, more research, higher costs, higher salaries, more duplication. And it has created a new occupation: Career state legislator. But is Michigan better

governed because of all this? Does Michigan have better laws and better state programs that can be directly traced to the full-time legislature? That's doubtful."

ON THE LINE item veto: "The veto likely would catch the special interest projects sneaked into a spending bill at the last minute, in secret, by a conniving committee chair or sly member. But it certainly won't bring wholesale reductions in spending. What is one member's pork barrel is another member's deserved public project ... Keeping in mind that so many entitlement areas are exempt, it appears the line item veto is not going to have a staggering effect on federal spending. It certainly won't balance the budget."

On Midwest primary results, where Bob Dole received 50-65 percent of Republican votes: "... (it) means, among other things that a lot of Republican voters are not too thrilled with Bob Dole as their candidate."

On using public funds for sports arenas: "It does not stretch an analogy too much to recall the glory that was Rome: Our leaders hand out the public assistance dole and government subsidy at one end of the spectrum, and raise taxes to build sports arenas at

the other. Bread and circuses. In ancient history, Rome fell into ruin."

ON MICHIGAN'S rainy day fund: "It seems to me the billion dollars now stashed away really belongs to the taxpayer, and it should be given to the taxpayer to use at his/her discretion. Taxpayer money should be used to run government, not taken from private cookie jars to be stored in a public cookie jar. Instead of stashing a billion dollars into a rainy day fund, why not make government observe a pay-as-you-go system?"

On a Ku Klux Klan rally: "The best way to deal with a Klan rally, or any other obnoxious public display by hate groups, is to ignore the whole spectacle. It's like a mosquito bite, or a scab. If you let it bother you, and pick away at it, the mosquito bite only gets worse, and the wound beneath the scab will never heal."

On Ross Perot being barred from presidential debates: "If (a realistic chance to win) were the controlling criterion, maybe Bob Dole shouldn't be allowed to debate, either ... Some unkind Republicans might suggest a one-man debate is the way it should be anyway ... that Mr. Clinton should debate himself, with liberal Democrat Clinton debating moderate Republican Clinton ..."

Clinton ..."

ON DEBATES in general: "Like the recent national nominating conventions, debates now are merely campaign opportunities. And debates measure the wrong things. Nice looking hair is important. Putting words together is important. Smiling is important. Body language is important. And as completely as campaign handlers can manage, the whole thing is pre-scripted and canned, and by experts."

After the election: "The 1996 election (in Michigan) marked the return of the well oiled, well financed political force of organized labor. Union money and political efforts ... were instrumental in many races."

Reflecting on problems with elections and campaigns: "Even with all our problems, America's election system isn't so bad, especially compared with the rest of the world. When we change leaders, we do it with ballots, not bullets, which in far too many societies provide the only answer for change."

Richard Milliman is a veteran newspaperman and a contributing columnist to several Michigan newspapers.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Area ice rink has some support

To the editor and Lions Club President,

Congratulations on your recent action and support of an ice rink at Hanson Hills.

Last year, I challenged one of Grayling's youthful parents to start a movement to build a skating rink for our youth.

Where would Gordie Howe and Wayne Gretzke be today without the opportunity to skate?

A similar beginning over 30 years ago in Fraser has resulted in three

privately owned side-by-side rinks.

The hockey program sprang from a rink in the park which relied upon mother nature to keep the ice skateable. It has been a financial boon to Fraser, and a recreation facility for figure skating and other activities.

I am sorry that I am now in Arizona until May, but rest assured, you have my support.

Walt Masinick

Will new law cause local problems

To the editor,

The retroactive domestic violence firearm confiscation bill passed in the federal budget. With this new law, will Sheriff Lovely look into past convictions of county deputies? Under this law any person convicted of domestic assault shall no longer possess any firearms.

This includes judges, prosecutors, county commissioners, township boards, city police, mayors, even the

sheriff himself. And not to forget citizen small game and deer hunters.

Or will Sheriff Lovely uphold his oath of office to protect the constitution, article 1 sect. 9, which states (no bill of attainder to ex post facto law shall be passed).

And if the sheriff holds to his oath, will Crawford County citizens stand with him?

Jeff Hills

Subscriptions 348-6811

JIM FITZGERALD

Acts of kindness are dirty business

Following doctor's orders, I embarrassed myself in Detroit Orchestra Hall and, for the first time in decades, got real dirt under my fingernails.

The doctor's orders were to my wife, but as a loving husband being watched closely by our children and friends, I felt obliged to help to help her stay healthy, even if it made a widow out of her.

For two months following her surgery, the doctor said, my wife couldn't garden or use stairs. Her first response was to lament: "What am I going to do with all the flats?"

Honest, I always thought flats were apartments, or airless tires. My problem, according to my wife (speaking of problems), is I not only refuse to do domestic chores that don't appeal to me, I also refuse to watch anyone else do them, or to read about them or otherwise absorb any information relating to how they are done.

I do one domestic chore — take out the trash. Bar patrons look at me strangely when I explained my abrupt departure by saying, "I just remembered, I have to go home and do my chore."

I don't care. I'm good at taking out the trash — not once has it come back in — and I feel no prideful need to expand my horizons.

Small reward for hard work

But now, thanks to a doctor, I know there are flats that contain dinky flowers and plants that must be stuck in the ground, a procedure that requires squatting and other abnormal physical

gyrations forbidden following certain surgeries.

My wife received many flats for Mother's Day, and, under pressure, I generously agreed to plant them under her close supervision. Unfortunately, the doctor did not forbid her to supervise. I hate to say she is a strict boss, but if she had two or more husbands, she would undoubtedly have a chain gang.

Forced labor wasn't the most dismaying part of my first gardening experience. That came when I innocently remarked that, although the bending and digging was daunting, it might possibly turn out to be gratifying to see the results of my hard work bloom every spring. And my wife said most of the stuff I'd just planted would bloom only once!

That means the entire planting process must be repeated every year for an annual reward of one brief bloom quickly terminated by permanent death. If I'd known that, I would never have married a gardener susceptible to surgery.

Also, about all the green growth my wife ordered me to yank out of the ground to make room for planting: I swear it looked better than the stuff that replaced it. Who decreed that weeds are unsightly and unacceptable, anyway?

I know. The decree came down from the greedy people who sell flats you can't inflate or live in.

Some cuts just aren't allowed

As for Orchestra Hall, for many years my wife and I have attended



Friday morning coffee concerts there, because the coffee is free, plus doughnuts. Our regular seats are in the balcony, but one Friday, under doctor's orders to avoid stairs, we sat on the main floor.

Previously, along with all other balcony sitters, we had attacked the two upstairs refreshment counters from all sides. On our initial visit to the main floor counter, I took the same approach. And later that day, on my voice mail, a woman chastised me for cutting in line. It seems that main floor sitters are more orderly than those upstairs, or less hungry.

"Are you the same columnist who criticized special parking privileges for Detroit Club members?" she asked, implying that I arrogantly think my job gives me visibility that rates a place at the head of the line.

Geez, I have close relatives who don't know I write a column.

So, my credibility has been stained, along with my fingernails. And I am completely innocent, although married.

EXTRA POINTS

Eric Gaertner

Fontes' firing: the 1996 Lions' highlight

The big buck has been bagged.

No, I am not referring to the shooting of a white-tailed deer during the late bow hunting season.

Instead I am speaking of the post season firing of Wayne Fontes as coach of the Detroit Lions.

The Lions' coach with the most wins (because of all of the talented players) and with the most losses (because of his pathetic "hug-them-and-love-them" coaching style) finally got hit with an arrow from Detroit Lions' owner William Clay Ford's bow.

The last eight years have seen Lions fans continually set up for a huge disappointment. Year after year, the Detroit team roster was filled with great players, including some pro-bowl members, and year after year the team would disappoint all of its loyal fans in the playoffs.

Hmmm, I wonder if the coach had some problems getting his team prepared to play in these big games at the end of the year.

Then, the fans would suffer through another disappointment, at least I did. Ford would continually bring Fontes back for another season after each disappointing year.

But that was until this year. People across the state are wondering and speculating on who the next coach will be, but not like most places.

In most places when a coach is canned, most people have a pretty good idea of the candidates for replacing the departed head man. That isn't true here.

Sure there are a list of candidates most people think the Lions are considering, but there is not a true favorite for the job. In my mind, the

reason this is happening is because people don't care just as long as Fontes is out of here.

While now that the Lions can move forward and eventually become a better team, the rest of the Michigan (Detroit) professional teams need to follow suit.

The year 1996 was not what one would call the year of the Michigan teams. The professional teams faltered most of their respective seasons, and even the one stand-by winner was disappointing in 1996.

The Detroit Red Wings are that standard winner for Michigan fans. The Red Wings continually finish at or near the top in the regular season standings and are usually one of the favorites to win the Stanley Cup.

In 1996 they won a record number of regular season games, but came up short in the playoffs. The Red Wings lost to the Avalanche (No, not the staff of your hometown newspaper) in the conference finals.

The Detroit Lions were disappointing once again in 1996. The prior season they had the best offense in football, but that did not carry over to the 1996 campaign.

Thank God for Barry Sanders to keep the games exciting and worth watching.

The Pistons were the only Detroit team which showed a tremendous improvement in 1996. Doug Collins was clearly the correct choice when Pistons' management chose a new coach (maybe they can give the Lions a hand).

The Tigers were, well, the Tigers. The baseball club is clearly in the rebuilding stages, so fans will have to suffer through more of the same.

With the local students still on vacation for the holidays, it seems like the perfect time to look at the first part of this winter sports season.

BASKETBALL: The varsity squad got off to a quick 2-0 start to the season, but followed that up with two losses to two tough teams. It is way too early in the season to see which performances — the two wins or two losses — will be standard for the remaining schedule.

VOLLEYBALL: The varsity volleyball team, led by coach Becky Brown, has started off the season on a good note. The Vikings brought home a trophy and have played tough and been competitive in all of their early season matches. The powerful hitting and passing/setting ability of the squad

should make them a tough opponent against any team remaining on the schedule.

WRESTLING: The Grayling grapplers also have begun the season with a bang. They garnered a team trophy at a tournament. The Vikings had done an outstanding job individually at these tournaments. With the leadership of the upperclassmen who have wrestled extremely well in the early season, the team has a lot of good performances ahead of them to look forward to.

SKIING: This winter season hasn't started yet. This is one sport in which preseason practice and training are very important. The schedule is crammed full of meets in a tight, winter season period for skiing conditions. If a participant is not ready to compete at the start, the season may be over before he/she is in top form.

This section is for those Avalanche Football Contest players who are going through withdrawal, since the contest has ended.

This journalist is not offering any prizes like the real football contest, but you can still try to match wits with this "football picking" machine.

Since this issue of the paper is dated Jan. 2, let us start with that important college football game.

Florida State (No. 1) and Florida (No. 3) already have played once and the Seminoles won. It was at FSU which was a huge advantage for this intra-state rivalry.

This time it is a whole different story. Florida gets revenge against Bowden's boys, 35-24.

Now, for the professional football playoff season.

The divisional playoffs in the AFC and NFC provide some interesting matchups.

I look for Green Bay to beat San Francisco and Dallas to defeat Carolina in the NFC bracket. Even though I am not obligated to do so, my pick for the NFC Super Bowl representative is Green Bay.

In the AFC the games are really fishy and the Dolphins did not even make the playoffs. The Denver Broncos should beat Jacksonville and Pittsburgh will defeat New England. The Steelers should return to the Super Bowl by winning against the Broncos in Denver.

NEWS 348-6811

CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

Hogeboom to participate in sports rally

A sports rally featuring Christian inspirational speaker Gary Hogeboom, former professional football player, will be held Jan. 11 at 7 p.m. in the Joseph Stripe Auditorium at Grayling High School. A skit, performed by local youth, as well as other entertainment, will be part of the rally. Admission is free.

Lucky 13 winner announced

The Lions Lucky 13 drawing winner No. 5 was William P. Terry of Grayling, who won \$300.

Revival to be held in Grayling

Evangelist Robert Klug of Never the Same Ministries will be holding special revival meetings in Grayling Jan. 8-12. The Jan. 8-10 meetings will begin at 7 p.m. at the Eagles Club. The meetings of Jan. 11-12 will be at the Holiday Inn, at 7 p.m., Jan. 11, and 11 a.m., Jan. 12.

Valuable item found on Dial-a-Ride bus

An item worth several hundred dollars, as well as sentimental value, was found on a Dial-a-Ride bus recently. To claim the item submit a description, as well as place of purchase, in writing to Dial-a-Ride.

Crawford County Sheriff Department



**Sheriff
Patrol**

The Sheriff's Department of Crawford County dealt with the following 104 incidents from Dec. 23 through Dec. 30:

Ambulance (1), Fire (1), Assault (1), Larceny (2), Stolen Vehicle (1), Fraud (1), Property Damage (2), Obscenity (1), Public Peace (2), OUI/DUI (3), Citations (2);

Health and Safety (2), Conservation (2), Vagrant (1), Miscellaneous Criminal Activity (3), Minors (2), Accidents (25), Non-traffic Accident (6), Civil Traf (1), Parking Violation (1), Snowmobile (10), False Alarm (4), InspProp (1), Civil (1), Missing Person (1), and General Non-Criminal (23).

CRAWFORD COUNTY LIBRARY NEWS

by Tracie Compton

Memorials donated to the Crawford County Library in memory of Jim Bourne include *First Settlers and First People* by Timothy and Karen Hygh, *100 Unforgettable Moments in Pro Hockey* by Richard and Janice Millhouse, *100 Unforgettable Moments in Pro Golf*, *Pro Football*, *Pro Baseball*, *Pro Basketball*, *The Summer Olympics* by Elizabeth Maxwell and Jane Reynolds, *From Acadia to Yellowstone and Discovering Fossil Fishes* from Don and Lois Clune, *Woodcarving Basics and NBA Basketball Offense Basics* by Patrick and Louise Dacey, *Wiring A House*, *Coach: The Life of Paul "Bear" Bryant*, *Ultimate Golf Techniques*, *Stormchaser and Party Fabulous* by Richard and Linda Albee, *History of the British Isles* by Frances Socha and Linda Martin, *Tuskegee Airmen and Before You Build* by Eric Vieau; *Old Farmer's Almanac* by Edward and Mary Meden; *American Almanac of Jobs and Salaries* by Orlando and Jeanne Doyle; *Vital Guide to Fighting Aircraft of World War II*, *Dinosaurs of the Flaming Cliffs* and *Ice Water Museum* by William Halliday; *Secret of Life: Inside the Brain, Believers: Spiritual Leaders of the World*, *Michigan's Masterpieces, Edible and Medicinal Plants of the Great Lakes Region* by Ralph Steffe and Margaret Thorsen, *Miracle On The Green* by Mike Branch Family; and *Tailor of Panama* by Dick and Ann DuBois.

Cornell Insurance and Real Estate donated in memory of Floyd Inverson *The Shadow Box*, *World Almanac and Book of Facts 1997* for G. Jerome Kessler, *New Fix-it Yourself Manual* for Hugo Somero, *Life of Nelson Rockefeller* for Joseph and Viola Webb, *Best American Poetry* for Maude Bader, *Southern Living 1996 Annual Recipes* for Ruth Caid, *Kid's Guide to The Smithsonian* for Alice Bond, *Building Your Own House* for Lewis Middleton; *Household Hints* and *Tips for Angela Kirkum*, *Prime Time* for Francella (Tete) Hanson, *Third Twin* for Allen Carr Sr., and *Roses* for Wilda M. Zamzo.

For Caroline Tardiff, *Columbia Anthology of British Poetry* by Anne D. Toprak.

For Anne Olson, *Executive Orders*, in large print, and *Black Alley* from Joyce Chandler.

For June Bouse, *Basic Flower Painting*, *Gardening With Bulbs*, *Thrifty Decorator* and *Shrubs and Climbers* by Charles and Rita Jackson.

For Byron Randolph, *North American Landscape Trees* by Don and Puff Denton.

For Francella E. (Tete) Hanson, *This Year It Will Be Different* by Bill and Gloria Kraus and *Design Sense* by John and Shirley Lanendoll.

For Angela Kirkum, audio books: *Laws of Our Father*, *Bestseller*, *Secret Affair* and *Tailor of Panama* by Grayling Lions and Lioness Clubs and *Fast, Fun and Fabulous Quilts* by Adult Education Staff.

For Irene Lennon, *Winter Fire* by Bill and Gloria Kraus, *Bloodhounds* by Bruce, Beth and John Lennon, and *Ragman's Memory* by Laurel Manning.

For Wmfred Geno, *Deep End of The Ocean* by Julie Steffen, Kay Hunter, Barb Miner and Noreen Rasmussen.

For Josephine Rozenek, *Gardening Hints and Tips* and for Horace Failing, *Animalwatch* by Whitey and Thelma Madsen.

For Anne Olson, *Enjoying Birds in Michigan and Michigan Memories* by Larry Frymire, *Perennials and Debbie Field's Great American Desserts* by Joe and Sue Porter.

The Crawford County Library is open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Phone 348-9214.

Financial aid deadline nears

If you have a child who is college-bound, Feb. 21 could be the most important day of the year.

It is the day the 1997-98 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is due to establish a student's eligibility for federal and State of Michigan financial aid programs.

FAFSA is the U.S. Department of Education form required for all federal financial aid programs, including grants, loans and work study and also by the State of Michigan for state-funded financial aid programs. Individual schools may have their own deadlines, so be sure to check with the school the student plans to attend for their particular filing deadlines.

Evan Montague, Albion College's director of financial aid, said that beyond deadlines for application, there are many things people need to remember if their child is to be considered for college financial aid. Montague offers the following tips on filing financial aid paperwork:

Read the instructions. Many mistakes are made by not following the directions completely. Also, be careful to include all information asked for. If forms are submitted without proper information, and without complete information, the forms cannot be processed.

HEALTHLINE

by Linda DeMarchis, M.A.

Question: Can you tell me about using the nicotine patches that are now available without a prescription?

Answer: Now that nicotine patches are widely available without a prescription, the Health Department often receives questions on the use of these devices. Here are a few facts about the patches and a few precautions. Remember, your pharmacist or physician can give you more detailed information.

The nicotine patches will not magically eliminate the desire to smoke. Smoking is addicting psychologically as well as physically, so individuals wishing to quit must develop strategies to change their habit patterns that depend on smoking and to handle periods of anger, anxiety and boredom without a cigarette.

Since nicotine is a drug and can profoundly affect the body, an abrupt cessation of nicotine can cause withdrawal symptoms (such as irritability) and can affect bodily functions (such as digestion and sleeping). Nicotine patches were developed to help relieve these withdrawal symptoms and help people break the smoking habit.

Nicotine patches must be used as directed on the package. To use:

- Pull open — do not cut — the sealed pouch. Take care not to touch the sticky side of the patch. Handle only the outside edges.

- Place the patch on a clean, dry non-hairy area of the skin, an area that is not irritated, burned or broken.

- Any unusual symptoms while wearing the patch should be reported to your physician or pharmacist who can help determine if you should continue their use.

Although the nicotine patches are not a "magic bullet" they can assist you in your efforts to quit smoking. However, patches are not for everyone. They should not be used by pregnant or breastfeeding women, those people with heart disease, high blood pressure and other chronic health conditions unless a physician advises otherwise. The cost of the patches may seem prohibitive, but actually a smoker who uses them will find that the money saved on cigarettes helps recoup the cost of the patches almost immediately.

This information is presented as a public service to the community by District Health Department No. 1 which serves Wexford, Missaukee, Kalkaska and Crawford counties. Any questions should be sent to Health Educator, 401 Lake Street, Cadillac, MI 49601.

Make sure all the numbers are right. Double check Social Security numbers. Often students, or their parents, have entered the wrong Social Security number, or transposed numbers, on financial aid applications.

Records needed:

- Copies of both the parent's and student's 1996 U.S. income tax return (IRS form 1040, 1040A or 1040EZ).
- 1996 state and local income tax returns, W-2 forms and other records of money earned in 1996.
- Records of untaxed income, such as welfare, Social Security, AFDC or ADC and veterans benefits.
- Current bank statements.
- Current mortgage information, business and farm records.
- Records of stocks, bonds and other investments.
- Student's driver's license and Social Security card.
- Promissory notes or loan disclosure statements.

Additional forms. Some colleges and universities require additional forms to determine eligibility for funds given by that institution. Some forms also require a filing fee. Be sure to check with the college the student plans to attend for information on the forms he/she will need to complete.

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Ski Conditions Report

Projected Weekend Ski Conditions

Hanson Hills Ski Area - Grayling

Average Base: 6-8 inches of powder and packed powder. **Downhill Surface Conditions:** Eight trails and four lifts open. **Cross Country Surface Conditions:** All trails open, from 11 am til 9 pm. 348-9266.

Cross Country Ski Headquarters - Higgins Lake

Average Base: Four inches. **Surface Conditions:** Very good, freshly groomed, six trails open. Shallow track set, skating lanes combed. **Hours:** Open Friday & Saturday, 9 am to 9 pm; Sunday through Thursday, 10 am to 6 pm. Two lighted trails open Friday & Saturday, dusk til 9 pm. (517) 821-6661. **Special Note:** Serving hot chocolate on Saturdays in the Trapper's Cabin. Visit our web site www.4-country-ski.com

Cross Country Ski Shop - Grayling

Average Base: Five-inch packed base. **Surface Conditions:** 2.5 miles open. Tidd Tech groomed 12 ft. wide, 8/10 mile lighted loop open. No trail fee. **Store Hours:** Open seven days a week, 10 am to 6 pm. Ski equipment and snowshoe rental available. (517) 348-8558

This weeks Ski Conditions Report is brought to you by
Cross Country Ski Headquarters - Higgins Lake
Open Sun. - Thurs. 10 to 6 • Fri. & Sat. 9 to 9
821-6661
3 1/2 MI. N. of S. Higgins State Park, County Rd. 100 East Side Higgins Lk.
For updated information, call the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce at (517) 348-2921

Community Calendar



sponsored by

**North Central Area
Credit Union**

Submit your public events to the Crawford County Avalanche
348-6811
Deadline: Thursday noon

JANUARY 1997

Happy New Year!

THURS. 2	•SCHOOL RESUMES •TOPS (TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY) meeting @ Hospital Riverside Room, 5 pm. Call 275-9918 for more information. •AMICARE HOME HEALTHCARE Community Bereavement support group meeting @ St. Mary's Learning Center, 3-5 pm. •AUSABLE VALLEY SNOWMOBILE MEETING @ Grayling Holiday Inn, 7 pm.
FRI. 3	•BBB vs. Kalkaska, away, 6 pm. •ENJOY A WINTER WALK through Hartwick Pines State Park.
SAT. 4	•JV VB vs. Rogers City, away, 9 am. •VB vs. Petoskey, away, 9 am. •WRESTLING at Gladwin. •PROMISE KEEPERS BREAKFAST Location to be announced.
SUN. 5	•ATTEND THE CHURCH of your choice today.
MON. 6	•SURVIVORS OF INCEST & Sexual Abuse meeting @ New Life Community Services, 7-8:30 pm. Call 348-2544 for more information. •VB vs. Boyne City, home, 6 pm •FRESH BB vs. Houghton Lake, away, 6 pm.
TUES. 7	•BBB vs. Houghton Lake, away, 6 pm. •AUSABLE RIVER CANOE MARATHON joint meeting @ Mio AuSable Restaurant, 7 pm. •FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC @ health department.
WED. 8	•MS BBB vs. Roscommon, 7th home, 8th away, 5 pm. •PROJECT GRADUATION MEETING @ HS conference room, 7 pm. •IMMUNIZATION CLINIC @ health department. •RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE @ American Legion Hall, 12 noon to 6 pm. •WEIGHT WATCHER'S meeting @ St. Francis Episcopal Church on M-72 W.; weigh-in 4:45 pm; meeting 5:30 pm. For more information call Sandy @ 348-5321.



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CONVENIENCE

The Bible Speaks

From the Calvary Baptist Church

Happy New Year!

We say, Happy New Year! While we may wish others a Happy New Year, what assurance can we have of happiness? Many years we learn with Solomon, "...there is no new thing under the sun." (Ecclesiastes 1:9) Speaking of happy new things should point us to the eternal Christ. All time and matter rely upon Him as Creator and Sustainer. (Col. 1:17) All dates on our calendar are relative to His incarnation. Jesus Christ is the only person who can make all things new for us in 1997. "And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful." (Revelation 21:5)

Christ's shed blood established the New Testament which alone can assure us of forgiveness of sins (Mat. 26:28) Therefore, Christ is the mediator of a

new covenant for our salvation. (Heb. 12:24) He has provided a new and living way into the presence of God for us. (Heb. 10:10) When we repent of our sins and trust Him as our Savior we are born-again into God's family as new creatures who receive new things. (2 Cor. 5:17, John 3:3,5,8) Christ will give us a new heart and a new spirit. (Eze. 36:26) Christ will give us a new name (Rev. 2:17), written down in Heaven. (Luke 10:20) Christ will give us a new song. (Psalms 149:1) He leaves us the promise of a new heaven and a new earth. (2 Peter 3:13; & Rev. 21:1,2)

Only faith in the person, work, and word of our Lord Jesus Christ can make 1997 the greatest year of our lives! We can rejoice with the apostle Peter: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which

according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." (1 Peter 1:3). We can face the future with that blessed hope which brings joy to those awaiting the second coming of Jesus Christ." (Titus 2:13) Are you trusting Jesus Christ to make 1997 the most blessed year of your life? "But as many as receive him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." (John 1:12) Happy New Year in Christ!!

Pastor "B"

"The Bible Speaks" is paid for by concerned Christians who support Grayling Calvary Baptist Church and who assume full responsibility for its content.

Plan set for changing electric utility industry

CMS Energy Corporation said its principal subsidiary, Consumers Power Company, reported that the staff of the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) has filed a recommendation with the commission on the restructuring of Michigan's electric utility industry.

The recommendation embodies the framework for utility reform prepared by the Michigan Jobs Commission and forwarded to the MPSC by Governor John Engler in January 1996.

The staff proposal was developed following extensive consultations with the state's public utilities, other energy providers and other interested parties. Its recommendations include the following provisions affecting Consumers Power:

- Beginning with the MPSC's issuance of an acceptable order and

continuing through 2000, an annual allocation of 150 megawatts of Consumers Power commercial, industrial and residential customer load would be made available for direct access service by third-party providers.

- In 2001, all Consumers Power commercial and industrial customers served at primary voltage would be allowed to select their electric power provider. A portion of the utility's residential customer load would continue to be made eligible for direct access annually through 2003.

- In 2004, all customers would have the opportunity to select their electric power provider.

- Third party providers, with the exception of independent power producers, must provide comparable and equivalent reciprocity to be eligible to sell directly to the customers of

Michigan utilities.

- Consumers Power and other affected Michigan utilities would be able to recover all of the transition costs that could be potentially left stranded during the move to a less-regulated environment.

"The MPSC staff proposal for utility restructuring will lead to a much more competitive economic climate in Michigan," said Michael G. Morris, president and CEO of Consumers Power. "In addition, we are very encouraged by the MPSC staff's endorsement of transition cost recovery by the state's investor-owned utilities so they may maintain their financial health and be able to meet the state's growing electricity requirements. We expect that the commission will give prompt consideration to the staff recommendations."

Crawford County Avalanche, Your Hometown News

FREE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSES
Send name, address, and age to
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P.O. Box 4103-C, Grayling, MI 49738
call (517) 348-8356 or 348-8220

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Church Directory For Auld Lang Syne

When the "old year" ends, it's time to say "thanks". Think kindly of the past year. It has probably given you more than you realize.

There is a "new year" ahead. Greet it with a cheerful "welcome". Look forward to it.

It is faith that has carried you this far. It will carry you further. Faith in union with love and kindness will meet

all your requirements and you will accomplish all that's needed without effort.

A kind and loving God will not be outdone. His generosity is vast in amount. He will give you peace, health, happiness and take care of all your special needs as he has in the past and for years to come. Believe and trust. That is faith.

With greater determination and your faith intact, there is a better year ahead. And with it, we'll take a cup of kindness yet...for auld lang syne.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Luke 2:22-40	John 20:1-18	John 20:19-31	Mark 1:14-28	Mark 1:29-45	Mark 2:1-17	Mark 3:1-19

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
Copyright 1996, Keister-Williams Newspaper Services, P.O. Box 8005, Charlottesville, VA 22906

First Baptist Church Of Frederic
Pastor Dale Hammond
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study 7 p.m.

Christian Science Society
209 First St. - Suite 103 - Gaylord
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
April through October
2nd Wednesday 8 p.m.

Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church
Pastor J. Douglas Peterson
400 Michigan Ave.
348-2974
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45-10:45 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship 12 noon
Bible Study (Wed.) 10 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist
Pastor David Stramel
Phone 348-4445
Services held Saturday at Camp AnSable off M-72 East (1st building on right inside camp entrance).
Church Service 9:30 a.m.
Sabbath School 10:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting Tues 7 p.m.

Grayling Assembly of God
Rev. Ron Veetker, Pastor
701 S. I-75 Business Loop
Church 348-8845-Parsonage 348-2588
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday - Family Night
Adult-Youth-Children 7 p.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
President Larry A. Cook
600 North Elm St., Gaylord
Sacrament 10 a.m.
Sunday School 11 a.m.
Primary 11 a.m.
Priesthood 12 noon
Relief Society 12 noon

Heritage Baptist
Pastor Ernie Wagner 348-1411
1841 Hartwick Pines Rd.
1/4 mile west of I-75
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Wednesday 7 p.m.

St. John Evangelical Lutheran (ELCA)
Pastor Sherry McGuffin
710 Spruce St. - Phone 348-5224
Bible School 9:15 a.m.
Adult Bible Study 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Nursery is available

Reorganized Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter Day Saints
Pastor Wayne Horton
Corner of North Down River Rd. and South Millikin Rd.
Church School 9:45 a.m.
Preaching 11 a.m.
Midweek Service Prayer 7 p.m.

Gaylord Christian Reformed
Rev. V. Schaap
415 Ohio North
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church
Robert W. Nalley, J.C.L., Pastor
Lee Ann Dunsley, Pastoral Associate
702 Peninsular - 348-7657
Sabbath Eucharist
Saturday Vigil 5 p.m. (Oct.-April)
..... 7 p.m. (May-Sept.)
Sunday Mass 8 & 11 a.m. (Year-round)
..... 9:15 a.m. (July-Aug.)
Sunday Family Bible Study/Prayer 9:30 a.m.
Daily Masses 9:30 a.m. Wednesday & Friday
Daily Worship
Sacrament of Reconciliation, one hour prior to Saturday Vigil Mass, or by appt.

Calvary Baptist Church
Dr. Robert Barnett, Pastor
M-72 West
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Mid-Week Services
Prayer & Awana Club (Wed) 7 p.m.

Church of Christ
Gordon French Minister
Old US 27 at Skyline Rd.
275-8613
Sunday Classes & Worship: 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday
Mid-week Bible Study 7 p.m.

Bear Lake Christian
M-72 & East Bear Lake Rd.
Sunday School 9 a.m.
Sunday Service 10 a.m.

The Church of Christ with the Elijah Message
Pastor Doreen E. Weaver
7662 Kelly Ave. - Frederic
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 7 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7 p.m.

Abundant Life Tabernacle
Pastor Lyle Stader
211 Sheldenburger St.
Grayling, Mich.
Sunday Morning 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Night 6 p.m.
Wednesday Evening 7 p.m.

Grayling Baptist Church
Affiliated with S.B.C.
Pastor Terry Colby
Meeting at 501 Michigan Avenue
(517) 348-2557
Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Wednesday Services 7 p.m.

Harvest Time Church of God
Pastor Fred Coates
506 North Birch St., Kalkaska
(616) 258-3448
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Worship Service 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Family Training Hour and Prayer, Wednesday 7 p.m.

Levitt Chapel
Pastor Rev. D. Dean Courtney
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Chapel Service 11 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7-8 p.m.

Free Methodist
Joseph Carpenter - Pastor
6652 W. Kalkaska Rd.
(M-72 West) Phone 348-5362
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Morning Service 11 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Prayer Meeting (Wednesday) 7 p.m.

St. Hope Evangelical Lutheran -- Midwest Synod
Rev. Paul Boeger, Pastor
905 North I-75 Business Loop
348-5921 or 348-6504
Sunday School 9 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday Weekly School 5 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 9 a.m.
Thursday Women's Bible Study 9 a.m.
Thursday Men's Promise
Keepers Study 7 p.m.

St. Francis Episcopal
Rev. Robert Henley
M-72 West Office 348-5850
Sunday Holy Eucharist
..... 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Morning Prayer 10:30 a.m.
(The second Sunday of each month)
Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Sunday nursery provided 10:30 a.m.
Adult Choir Practice (Monday) 6 p.m.

St. Martin's Ev. Lutheran (Wald)
Herbert R. Flier - Pastor
For information call 275-5443
Services held at the Roscommon Community Center, Sunday mornings at 9 a.m., 510 South St., Roscommon, MI.

Luzerne Baptist
Pastor James Durfee
2247 Durfee Lane
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.

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108 Burton Court • Grayling • 348-9832

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2500 I-75 Bus. Loop • 348-6511
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Phone 348-6761 and 348-6481

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This Church Directory is used by residents and visitors. If you wish to show your support for area churches, call the Avalanche, 348-6811, to be included on this page.

Tougher drunken driving laws on the way

Tougher drunken driving laws are set to take effect on April 1, 1997, State Senator Bill Van Regenmorter (R-Hudsonville) said Dec. 23.

"When someone has been repeatedly convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol, it is obvious we need to make a stronger impact on them to get them to stop breaking the law and endangering other motorists on the highways," said Van Regenmorter, chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The package was strongly supported by the Michigan State Police and members of the Prosecuting Attorney's Association of Michigan, who endorsed the legislation before both the Senate and House Judiciary Committees.

Under the new laws, drivers convicted of a third offense of driving under the influence will see much stiffer penalties. There are four significant points addressed in the package.

A sentencing judge will be allowed the discretion to determine whether or not an offender's vehicle will be forfeited after the first and any subsequent convictions.

Previous convictions may be used for the purpose of a mandatory sentence of one year's imprisonment, giving prosecutors the tools to more easily obtain a third drunken-driving conviction.

If an individual has pulled completely off the highway to "sleep it off," a warrantless arrest cannot be made.

A police officer will now be permitted to make an immediate warrantless arrest if any part of the vehicle is on the traveled portion of the highway and the police officer has probable cause to believe the person had been driving under the influence of alcohol.

Testimony offered by police officers in the Senate Judiciary Committee indicated it is not uncommon to find an individual who is clearly intoxicated, asleep in front of a stop light. This package will allow for an immediate warrantless arrest in that type of situation.

Drivers must know that they are operating a dangerous weapon when they drive drunk," Van Regenmorter said. "This is a serious offense, it is dangerous and the penalty must be severe. Our goal is to save lives. With strong penalties, such as these, hopefully drivers will think twice before they endanger others by driving drunk."

These amendments to Michigan law were passed by the legislature this past year and will become effective on April 1, 1997.

Most Michigan areas report unemployment drops

Unemployment rates dropped in six of Michigan's 10 major labor market areas in November, according to seasonally unadjusted data compiled by the Michigan Employment Security Agency (MESA).

"In most cases, the changes in area jobless rates from October to November were minor," Tom Malek, acting MESA director, reported. "Only two areas — Flint and the Upper Peninsula — had rate fluctuations of greater than half a percentage point."

Unemployment rates declined in the Flint, Jackson, Benton Harbor, Detroit, Grand Rapids/Muskegon/Holland, and Lansing areas.

The Flint area had the largest decline as its rate fell from 5.9 percent in October to 5.3 percent in November. Malek attributed the decline to employment growth in the area's retail trade and automotive industries.

Crawford County showed a rate of 8.2.

Four areas reported rate increases in November. The areas were the Upper Peninsula, Ann Arbor, Kalamazoo/Battle Creek, and Saginaw/Bay/Midland.

The greatest increase occurred in the U.P., where the rate jumped by nearly two percentage points from 5.6 percent in October to 7.4 percent in November.

"A sharp drop in U.P. employment caused the jobless rate to increase,"

Malek explained. "Seasonal job losses in the region's construction, transportation, retail and service industries led to the rate increase."

In all areas, except the U.P., employment levels climbed in November. Retail trade had significant job gains as retailers hired workers for the holiday shopping season. Local government also had some employment increases as some schools added staff and as election workers were hired for the November general election.

Most major industries, however, suffered job losses. The greatest declines occurred in construction and services. Losses in both sectors were seasonal. Manufacturing employment also dropped because of production adjustment layoffs in the auto industry. Labor force levels rose in eight areas during the month while falling in the U.P. and holding steady in Benton Harbor.

Over the year, unemployment rates were down from their November 1995 levels in seven areas. Benton Harbor and Jackson had rate increases, while the Lansing area rate remained unchanged.

Among Michigan's 83 counties, Keweenaw County had the highest rate at 18.8 percent, and Washtenaw County had the lowest rate at 1.9 percent.

Disaster-resistant communities to be focus of FEMA

Reducing the escalating costs of disaster assistance by promoting community responsibility will be the new focus of an unprecedented effort by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), according to FEMA Director James Lee Witt.

As he looks forward to his next four years at the helm of the nation's disaster response agency, Witt will concentrate on preventing people and communities from becoming victims of disasters by encouraging the concept of disaster-resistant communities.

"In the last five years, federal disaster expenditures have risen from \$3.3 billion to more than \$13 billion. The exploding cost of local and federal assistance can be reduced if communities take constructive actions to reduce damage prior to the next disaster," Witt said. "FEMA will embark on an ambitious campaign to prevent people and communities from becoming the victims of disasters. We are ready to work with city, county and state officials to establish disaster-resistant communities and promote safer, more economically sound neighborhoods throughout the nation."

In the next four years, FEMA will encourage the establishment of disaster-resistant communities by focusing on three areas of activity:

Establishing a Pre-Disaster Mitigation Fund: FEMA will establish a pre-disaster mitigation fund which will provide financial incentives for high-risk communities to undertake

mitigation efforts to protect infrastructure and buildings before disaster strikes. Congress gave FEMA \$2 million in its fiscal year 1997 budget to start the effort. Mitigation is the effort undertaken by individuals and communities to reduce the loss of life and property in future disasters.

Implementing a Public/Private Partnership for Emergency Management: FEMA is exploring partnership opportunities with the private sector to include the business community in the nation's emergency management system. The Public/Private Partnership for Emergency Management will identify disaster risks to communities, develop operating procedures for response activities, short- and long-term recovery planning, and executing training and exercise programs. The effort will also work closely with Congress and the insurance industry to develop a national all-hazards insurance program.

Overhauling FEMA Public Assistance Programs: Two-thirds of all FEMA disaster assistance goes to rebuilding public infrastructure such as schools, roads, bridges damaged by disaster. FEMA is examining its Public Assistance Program to dramatically streamline the program's procedures and expedite a community's recovery.

In addition to the new agency initiatives, Witt will embark on a series of town hall meetings in high-risk areas throughout the country to encourage the concept of disaster-

resistant communities. These meetings will bring together federal, state, local, private sector and non-profit partners to focus public attention on mitigation and community responsibility.

Since Witt became FEMA Director on April 6, 1993, his main objective has been to reduce the burden of disaster costs to American taxpayers while improving assistance to the nation's disaster victims and their communities. To accomplish this goal, Witt initiated efforts to streamline agency functions and enhance the delivery of federal relief to people devastated by natural and man-made disasters.

"Each of these initiatives allowed FEMA to dramatically cut the time it takes disaster victims to register and receive disaster assistance," Witt said. "No longer do people stand in line waiting to complete a paper application form that takes weeks to process. Now people register for assistance by telephone and FEMA disaster relief gets to victims in days instead of weeks."

"In the past four years, the American people have experienced some of the most costly disasters in our nation's history," said Witt. "Establishing public trust and keeping President Clinton's commitment that the government would be there when the public was most in need, in the aftermath of disasters, was our goal."



HEROS RECOGNIZED — Those involved in the 1995 I-75 rest area shoot out near Frederic were recognized at a ceremony at Grayling City Hall. Those honored and giving the honors included (front, from left) Thomas Gauthier, Barbara King, (back) Deputy Paul Smith, Deputy Conrad Niederhouse, Trooper Ron Croskey, Dispatcher James Baker, Crawford County Sheriff David Lovely and State Police Lt. Jim Muller, Houghton Lake Post commander.

Persons honored for part in area shootout

by Eric Gaertner
News Editor

Some law enforcement officers and area residents were honored by the Michigan State Police and Crawford County Sheriff's Office Thursday, Dec. 19 at Grayling City Hall.

The ceremony was held to honor those persons who were directly and indirectly involved in the I-75 rest area shootout near Frederic. The Sept. 14, 1995 incident left two law enforcement officers and one suspect wounded from gun shot wounds.

Crawford County Sheriff Deputy Paul Smith and Michigan State Police Trooper Ronald Croskey were both shot during the shootout. Sheriff Deputy Conrad Niederhouse escaped gun shot wounds during the incident. These three officers were honored at the Thursday morning ceremony. Niederhouse and Smith received the Michigan State Police Citation of Professional Excellence from the Houghton Lake Post.

Niederhouse and Smith provided backup for Croskey after a vehicle was located at the rest area that fit the description of the "be on the lookout." During the 1995 incident, one of the male subjects opened fire with a handgun. The suspect hit Smith in the chest and then shot Croskey, who was sitting in his car.

The Houghton Lake Post recognized Niederhouse for the professional way he worked with the state police during the incident and the following investigation. Smith received his

award for his effort during the incident and the fact that he may very well have saved Croskey's life.

Crawford County Sheriff David Lovely presented Croskey with an official commendation from Crawford County. Smith and Niederhouse already had received their commendations in October 1995, but Croskey was unable to attend at that time due to his injuries.

Crawford County Central Dispatch employee James Baker also received a state police Citation for Professional Excellence and sheriff's office commendation award.

Baker was on duty at central dispatch Sept. 14 and was the dispatcher in this incident. Lovely said Baker did an outstanding job in the communication process of emergency personnel.

Barbara King was presented a distinguished citizen award Thursday. She received a certificate from the state police and recognition from the sheriff's office.

King was a passenger in a vehicle that was traveling by the Frederic rest stop. She witnessed one of the subjects shot a gun.

Another distinguished citizen award went to Thomas Gauthier. While driving by the incident scene, Gauthier witnessed a male subject running around near a state police officer and heard a shot.

The two residents were recognized for being available for police interviews and helping with the investigation.

Ask The Dentist

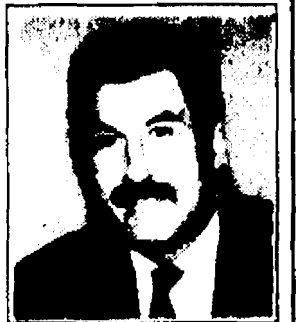
"My dentist says my child has cavities on her baby teeth and wants to put fillings in them. Why should this be done since her teeth are going to fall out anyway?"

First, if decay is left untreated in deciduous (baby) teeth, it will eventually invade the nerve or pulp of the tooth, thus causing pain or discomfort. Eventually, the baby tooth may become infected, leading to an abscess underneath the tooth. This infection could potentially damage the unerupted permanent tooth while it is still forming.

Secondly, if the baby tooth needs to be prematurely removed, as the result of extensive decay and/or infection, it can no longer maintain proper space in the dental arch. As a result, other teeth may shift or move, thus leaving insufficient space for eruption of the permanent teeth. This may lead to crowding and misalignment of the adult dentition and orthodontic treatment may be required.

It is much easier and less costly to preserve the child's primary or baby teeth and minimize future dental problems.

Please submit any questions to 205 Meadows Dr. Grayling, MI 49738



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Downhill ski classes start the week of Jan. 6th

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Downhill & Snowboard

Thursday or Friday evenings

Lesson: 6-7:30 pm

Free Skiing: 7:30-8:30 pm

HANSON HOPPERS:

Pee Wee Ski classes

(4-5-6 year olds only)

Saturday mornings

Lesson: 11 am-12 noon

Free Skiing: 12 noon-1:30 pm

Pee Wee Parents or designate will receive a complimentary lift ticket to ski with their child between 12 noon and 1:30 pm.

ADULT CLASSES:

Downhill & Snowboard

Thursday evenings

Lesson: 6-7:30 pm

Free Skiing: 7:30-8:30 pm

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Registration: Register by January 3, 1997. Rental availability is limited--first come, first served.

Fee includes: Trail fee and rental (for those who rent). Six weeks of skiing for one hour on Tuesday

starting date: Tuesday, January 7, 1997--3:45 to 4:45 pm.

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For ticket information, or if you would like to make a reservation, please contact the Kirtland Ticket Office at 517-275-6777.

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LEVIN ONLINE — Carl Levin types out a message via computer to the troops involved in the Bosnian conflict.

Levin's home page offers connection to troops in Bosnia

Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.) unveiled a special feature on his Internet World Wide Web home page that will help people send electronic mail messages to American troops in Bosnia with holiday and New Year's greetings.

"To be stationed abroad serving your country in the armed forces is an honorable task, but it can be difficult on family and friends who are left behind — especially during the holidays," said Levin, who sent his own electronic greeting. "This is a great way to send season's greetings to friends and loved ones overseas, and I'm glad to help make the world a little smaller this time of year."

The link connects Internet users to BosniaLINK, the home page established by the Department of Defense to provide means of communication to American troops.

as well as resources such as operations, maps and transcripts of briefings. These messages will be distributed through internal military print media to troops and will be broadcast over Armed Forces Radio and Television to troops deployed to Bosnia and the areas supporting the operation.

Levin's web site is located at: <http://www.senate.gov/~levin/>

Bosnia Link is located at: <http://www.dtic.dla.mil/bosnia/>

One National Guard unit from Michigan has been alerted to begin training for deployment to Europe to support the Bosnian mission. The 1439th Engineer Detachment, a firefighting unit of 24 soldiers from Camp Grayling, should arrive in Hungary Jan. 13.

In late December, three schools in Michigan made special arrangements

for their students to use the Bosnia-Link site to send special holiday greetings to the troops. These schools included Cumberland Elementary in Lansing, East Grand Rapids High School and Fordson High School in Dearborn.

Levin's home page offers access to local, state and federal Internet resources. Michiganians and non-Michiganians alike can connect to other pages containing information on anything from Michigan tourism guides to federal small business loan listings. In addition, the home page provides extensive information on Levin's legislative record in the Senate, including press releases, floor speeches, and op-eds, and his committee assignments.

KCC offers reward

Kirtland Community College is offering a reward of \$2,500 for information leading to the apprehension and arrest of the person or persons who stole expensive communication equipment from the college during two separate weekend thefts.

During the Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 28 - Dec. 1, a thief or thieves entered the photo lab and other rooms in the college's Academic Building and took television sets, VCRs and computers. Sometime during the following weekend, Dec. 8-9, a thief or thieves struck again, this time at the Continuing Education Center on College Drive, taking television sets, VCRs, a camcorder, and several laptop computers.

There were no visible signs of forced entry on either occasion. The value of the stolen equipment is estimated at more than \$80,000.

The thefts are being investigated by the college's Public Safety Department with assistance from area Sheriff's Departments and the Michigan State Police. Law enforcement agencies have gathered evidence from each of the theft scenes.

Kirtland President Dorothy N. Franke said every effort is being made not only to find the person or persons responsible for the thefts, but also to incorporate new and extensive security measures on the campus which will prevent or discourage theft in the future.

She asks that persons who have information about the thefts call the Roscommon county Sheriff's Office at 517-275-5101 or the Michigan State Police Post in Houghton Lake at 517-422-5103 immediately, or call the Kirtland Community College Business Office after Jan. 6 at 517-275-5121 ext. 239.

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FRIDAY 12 noon & 8 pm - St. Mary's Catholic Church Lake Street, Grayling

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OBITUARIES

Eva Woodcum

Eva M. Woodcum, 94, 19 year resident of Grayling, died Dec. 27, 1996 at The Meadows of Grayling.

Mrs. Woodcum was born in Verner, Ontario, on March 11, 1902, and has been a widow since 1970 when her husband Oscar J. Woodcum died. She and her husband previously lived in Pontiac where they owned Woodcum Well Drilling of Pontiac for 45 years.

Mrs. Woodcum was a member of St. Michaels Catholic Church, and member of Daughters of Isabella, both of Pontiac.

Surviving are five sons and two daughters: Edgar Woodcum of Palm Springs, Florida; Juliette and husband Bill McCarty of Pontiac; Francis Woodcum of Lake Worth, Florida; Richard Woodcum of Ft. Pierce, Florida; Roger and wife Evelyn Woodcum of Lewiston; Ann Marie Phillips of Mio; and Robert and wife Lucille Woodcum of Ortonville.

Also surviving: two brothers, Felix and Fred LaFrambois of Windsor; one sister, Ivy Wylie of Windsor; 38 grandchildren, and many great-grandchildren.

Memorial Mass was held at 2 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 30, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Pontiac. Reverend Jim Bilot officiated. Mrs. Woodcum's ashes are to be buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery in Pontiac. Visitation was held at Sorenson Funeral Home, McEvers Chapel in Grayling.

Billyann Brown

Billyann Clippert Brown of Brevard, North Carolina, longtime resident of Grayling, died Dec. 20, 1996.

Wife of the late James H. Brown and daughter of the late Dr. Clarence G. and Mrs. Helen Clippert.

She is survived by sons Ric, Randy, Roger and Ron and their families.

Services will be held at a later date in North Carolina.

Research fund set up for Great Lakes projects

Funding for Great Lakes research projects is available under the Michigan Great Lakes Protection Fund, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) announced Dec. 10.

The deadline for submitting preliminary proposals is Jan. 14.

"The Great Lakes are one of Michigan's most valuable resources," DEQ Director Russell Harding said. "It is our responsibility to ensure that they are healthy and protected for use now and into the future. That is the Great Lakes Protection Fund's objective."

The Michigan fund, administered by the DEQ's Office of the Great Lakes, provides a permanent funding source to support research and demonstration projects to improve and protect the Great Lakes' quality.

The Michigan Great Lakes Protection Fund is part of the regional Great Lakes Protection Fund established by the eight Great Lakes governors with contributions from each state. When fully funded, the Great Lakes Protection Fund will hold \$100 million and annually disperse between \$7 million and \$8 million in grants.

"The Great Lakes Protection Fund represents a collective effort between the governors of the Great Lakes states

that is vital to the protection and preservation of our shared water resources," said Office of the Great Lakes Director G. Tracy Mehan III. "This partnership provides a permanent source of funding for research and demonstration projects that focus on the enhancement and health of the Great Lakes ecosystem."

Priority areas for this year's funding include support of projects that will improve knowledge and understanding of pollution prevention, risk assessment, nonpoint source pollution, and determination of pollutant loadings to the Great Lakes.

Under the Michigan Great Lakes Protection Fund, the Office of the Great Lakes director is responsible for overall administration of the program. The fund also has an eight-member technical advisory board responsible for making grant award recommendations to the DEQ director.

Grants for projects selected under the program are scheduled to be awarded in April 1997. Grant awards for this year are expected to total \$600,000.

Those interested in submitting preliminary proposals should contact Mark Coscarelli in the Office of the Great Lakes at (517) 335-4056.

Card of thanks

Thank-you, Thank-you, Thank-you! We'd like to express our deepest appreciation to the employees at North Central Area Credit Union. Their efforts in the community made the Christmas at Kenquest House one to remember. We were truly blessed by the generosity and commitment shown. Thanks again.

Sincerely,
Staff, young women
and babies at Kenquest House

Card of thanks

Kenquest House would like to thank the following folks who made our holidays brighter:

Rotary Club, Kiwanis, St. Mary's — Giving Tree, Dr. Guno's staff, Riverhouse, Michelson Memorial United Methodist Ladies Group.

Your thoughtfulness over Christmas is much appreciated!!

Card of thanks

Many thanks to the nurses and nurses' aids on floor two north and Dr. Geotz and Dr. Macon for your wonderful care.

To all those who sent flowers and cards, and for your visits and prayers my many, many thanks.

Bernie Mauren

Card of thanks

Thank you Patti's Towne House for the delicious catered breakfast you served the Grayling Middle School. 12-20-96

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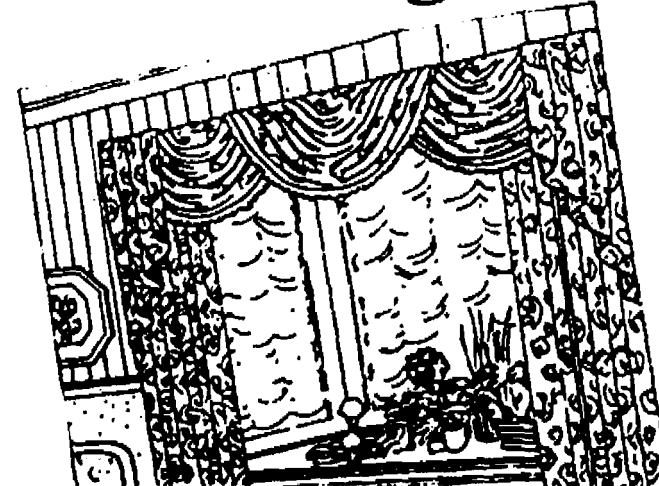
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Secretary of State offices to be closed for winter holidays

Secretary of State Candice S. Miller announced that all 179 Secretary of State branch offices will be closed in observance of state holidays during January and February. The branch offices will be closed for:

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, Jan. 20; and
- Presidents Day on Monday, Feb. 17.

Motorists whose drivers licenses or license plates expire over the long weekend should renew early. For added convenience, customers may renew vehicle license plates by mail or by fax.

Customers renewing in branch offices can expect fastest service midmorning, midafternoon, midweek

and midmonth. Secretary of State offices are open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday with most branch offices Wednesdays 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

When renewing license plates motorists can choose to purchase the Great Lakes Splendor license plate, for a one-time fee of only \$5, in addition to the annual vehicle registration fee.

The Michigan Historical Museum, operated by the Department of State and located at 717 West Allegan Street in downtown Lansing, will also be closed on Jan. 20 and Feb. 17.

For more information about the Secretary of State office, visit the Home Page on the World Wide Web: www.sos.state.mi.us/

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Busy automated telephone system hits year mark

He's polite. He talks and listens. He has few hang-ups. He doesn't watch football games on the tube all weekend. And he dishes out a lot of money. But he's not the marrying kind.

He is MARVIN, Michigan's Automated Response Voice Interactive Network, launched by the Michigan Employment Security Agency (MESA) as a high-tech alternative to the Agency's old system for administering unemployment benefits.

MARVIN's first birthday was Dec. 11. But he already has proved a precocious 1-year-old, fielding more than 990,000 inquiries and 2.4 million certifications of benefits for a total of almost \$827 million paid to jobless workers.

Call him a workforce workhorse, but don't call him MARLIN OR MERVIN — monikers mistakenly bestowed on him sometimes by callers.

"Happy birthday, MARVIN. You've performed admirably your first year," MESA Director F. Robert Edwards said.

Edwards said MARVIN has accomplished what MESA set out to do: increase efficiency and cut costs while giving jobless workers more control over their benefits certification process.

"MARVIN reduced a mountain of

paperwork. He reduced the tedious entry of forms for our employees. He has made the whole process faster and simplified it for our job-seeking customers," Edwards said. "Before MARVIN, claimants mailed in forms or used branch office drop boxes. Processing took several days."

"Before a caller hangs up from MARVIN, he or she knows whether a check will be sent or the status of a claim or the balance on a claim."

Edwards added that MARVIN also has reduced the amount of over-payments, which makes MESA's employer customers happy.

MARVIN in 1997 is projected to result in \$1 million in savings from reduced staffing of temporary workers once used when unemployment claims increased due to layoffs. MESA estimates that the 6.4 million forms scotched by MARVIN will provide a further annual savings of \$200,000 to the state in paper.

At his peak the first year, MARVIN handled about 95,000 calls the week of layoffs at a major auto manufacturer and its suppliers. His average weekly load of certifications calls is closer to 45,000, however.

MARVIN is mandatory for most claimants; he handles 95 percent of all claims.

Eligible jobless workers claim their benefits by simply phoning MARVIN at their local MESA branch office every two weeks. They call at set times Monday through Wednesday, with times based on their Social Security numbers. Miss a deadline? MARVIN is hip to that. Claimants who miss appointments may call Thursdays or Fridays.

MARVIN, which communicates through digitized human speech, interacts with MESA computers and claimants using a touch-tone or push button phone with tone dialing. Following a long-in, callers are guided by instructions from MARVIN and simply punch a series of "1s" and "9s" for answers.

Claimants can reach MARVIN at all MESA branch offices, many times with local calls. They receive a booklet introducing MARVIN and listing important phone numbers.

MARVIN is based on interactive Voice Response technology. Information gathered by him at branch offices is fed to MESA mainframes at the Agency's Detroit headquarters. The system has more than 800 lines statewide, twice that of similar systems in other states.

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Kids Count of Michigan dishes out a wide variety of figures for county

Continued from page 1A

year in GES or vice versa, the scores were still only half as good.

However, due to the newly constructed AuSable Primary School this year, students did not need to be transferred for the first time in 20 years.

"I think we'll see a dramatic rise in the test scores over the next few years," Reynolds said.

Another way to combat the low test scores is to analyze the curriculum of the second and third grade teachers to make sure the concepts that are on the MEAP test are being taught in the classroom before the test is taken at the beginning of the student's fourth grade year.

The birth to teens ranking for Crawford County of the Kids Count is another concern.

The ranking, 69 out of 70, is based on the rate of pregnancy (51.7 out of every 1,000 15- to 17-year-old girls giving birth) from 1992-1994.

According to Reynolds, a health committee was established during the 1995-96 school year to help combat the problem of risky teenage behaviors.

Marilyn Rosi, school board member, nurse practitioner and health committee member, conducted a survey of the 1994-95 junior class at Grayling High School.

The survey showed that 51 of the 134 enrolled students completed the survey.

The information recorded in the survey was as follows: 35 students had had sexual intercourse (68.6 percent); 20 (57.1 percent) had sexual intercourse when they were 14- to 15-years-old; 12 (34.3 percent) had sexual intercourse at 16-years-old or older; and three (8.6 percent) had sex by the time they were age 13.

Under the lifetime sexual partners category 15 (42.9 percent) had only one sexual partner, but 11 (31.4 percent) had four or more sexual partners; nine (25.7 percent) had two or three partners.

However, the survey did show that those engaging in sexual activity were using some method of birth control. In fact, 65.7 percent had used condoms or birth control pills during their last sexual activity. However, 34.3 percent used withdrawal or no birth control during their last sexual activity.

The survey was conducted by Rosi and MaryAnn Reynolds for completion of a master's degree thesis. Those students participating in the survey had to have parental consent.

According to Rosi, those who have extremely high risk behavior may not have been able to complete the survey because they did not receive parental consent or were absent the day the survey was conducted.

Crawford County Indicators

	Base Year		Recent Year		Rank (by recent year with 1 the best)
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	
	1980		1990		
Economic Security					
• Children below 125 percent poverty	665	23.8%	893	28.7%	58 out of 83
Ages 0-4	186	25.3%	284	32.2%	47 out of 83
Ages 5-17	479	23.2%	609	27.3%	60 out of 83
• Children receiving free/reduced price lunches	1989-90	School Year	1995-96		
	713	35.3%	1,023	44%	74 out of 82
Child Health					
• Inadequate prenatal care for mothers	7	3.9%	5	*	*
• Low birth-weight babies	11	6.3%	15	8.9%	69 out of 75
• Infant mortality	4	*	2	*	*
• Child deaths - ages 1-14 (rate per 100,000)	1	*	1	*	*
Child Safety					
• Abuse/neglect: child referrals	1987	Fiscal Year	1995		
	365	122.6	307	89.2	68 out of 82
• Abuse/neglect victims (unduplicated)	92	30.9	24	7.2	34 out of 83
• Children in out-of-home care	1988	Fiscal Year	1995		
	25	8.0	12	3.3	26 out of 79
Teen Transition	1986-88	Three Year Average	1992-94		
• Births to teens - ages 15-17	10	38.1	12	51.7	69 out of 70
• Juvenile index crime arrests - ages 10-17	13	9.9	19	13.5	20 out of 80
• Teen violent deaths - ages 15-19	1	*	1	*	*
• High school dropouts	20	4%	13	2.4%	12 out of 82
	(Rate calculated per every 1,000)				
Education					
Students meeting basic skills requirements					
• Fourth grade:					
Reading	57	35%	35	19.3%	82 out of 82
Mathematics	62	37.8%	76	42%	79 out of 82
• Seventh grade:					
Reading	49	31.6%	90	53.9%	5 out of 82
Mathematics	88	56.8%	126	75%	2 out of 82

Data from Kids Count in Michigan 1996 Data Book

Rosi stated the survey was developed by the Center for Disease Control and given to schools across the country.

"We wanted to be able to compare this data with nationwide data," Rosi said. "Our findings coincide with the national average."

The health committee, which is comprised of members from the health department, ministerial association, nurse practitioners, educators and social workers, met three times last year.

According to Kent Reynolds, the committee will begin meeting again after the holidays.

"Hopefully, we'll have a (newly revised health education) plan in place by next fall," Reynolds said.

"We're going to look at restructuring the health curriculum from kindergarten (through high school)," Rosi said.

The committee is designed to revamp the health curriculum to help students make positive choices when it comes to sex, drugs and other health-related issues.

Another low ranking in the state was in the low birth-weight babies

category. Crawford County ranked 69 out of 75 because 15 babies were born with low birth-weights. In fact, 8.9 percent of all children born during the 1995-96 school year had low birth-weights.

According to sources in the obstetrics and gynecology department at Grayling's Mercy Hospital, low birth-weights are affected by many aspects.

For example, the socio-economic state of the region is a large factor in the health of its children.

Lower income mothers have a tendency to get less prenatal care.

According to the hospital's sources, although prenatal care is covered by Medicaid, many are not educated enough to get the care they need.

"Teenagers also have a tendency to have low birth weight babies," the

sources revealed. Again, much of the problem centers on a lack of prenatal care.

It has also been proven that mothers who smoked both before and during pregnancy are more likely to give birth to a low birth weight baby.

According to the sources, better education and better prenatal care are needed to help prevent low birth weight babies.

The Kids Count Data Book is a collaborative project of the Michigan League for Human Services and Michigan's Children, is part of a broad national effort to measure the well-being of children at state and local levels.

The project regularly collects and publishes information about child well-being as a basis for public policy development and community action.

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Michigan Indicators

	Base Year		Recent Year	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
	1980		1990	
Economic Security				
• Children below 125 percent poverty	470,119	17.4%	550,277	22.7%
Ages 0-4	137,976	20.4%	183,755	26.6%
Ages 5-17	332,143	16.3%	366,522	21.1%
• Children receiving free/reduced price lunches	1989-90	School Year	1995-96	
	341,776	23%	498,696	30.5%
Child Health				
• Inadequate prenatal care for mothers	8,485	6.1%	13,103	9.3%
• Low birth-weight babies	9,956	7.1%	10,765	7.7%
• Infant mortality	1,548	11.1	1,321	9.4
• Child deaths - ages 1-14 (rate per 100,000)	641	34.2	598	29.4
Child Safety				
• Abuse/neglect: child referrals	1987	Fiscal Year	1995	
	110,841	44.9	139,289	55.2
• Abuse/neglect victims (unduplicated)	25,570	10.4	21,165	8.5
• Children in out-of-home care	1988	Fiscal Year	1995	
	14,009	5.7	15,208	6.0
Teen Transition	1986-88	Three Year Average	1992-94	
• Births to teens - ages 15-17	6,188	27.9	6,344	32.9
• Juvenile index crime arrests - ages 10-17	24,743	22.4	23,265	21.1
• Teen violent deaths - ages 15-19 (rate per 100,000)	566	75.2	438	65.1
• High school dropouts	23,023	5.6%	28,834	7.0%
	(Rates calculated per every 1,000 except where noted))			
Education				
Students meeting basic skills requirements				
• Fourth grade:				
Reading	56,173	48.9%	57,293	49.9%
Mathematics	56,173	48.9%	72,523	63.1%
• Seventh grade:				
Reading	44,263	38.7%	47,316	41.3%
Mathematics	47,316	41.3%	62,851	55.0%

Data from Kids Count in Michigan 1996 Data Book



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Crawford County budget approved by commissioners; Salaries to be determined at a later date

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners have set the budget for the upcoming 1997 year, but the salaries of county officials won't be set until a future date.

The six county commissioners held a public hearing on the proposed budget for 1997 at their Dec. 10 board meeting at the Crawford County Courthouse. Upon no response from any audience members, the public hearing was closed.

Later in the Dec. 10 meeting, the commissioners passed a motion adopting the 1997 budget and to include the court restructuring in the final version.

The board balanced the budget at a total of \$4,412,114 for the upcoming year.

The 1997 revenue total compared to the total of \$4,119,858 in the 1996 amended budget increased by almost \$300,000. The expenses also grew by

nearly \$300,000 for the county as the 1996 amended budget for expenses was \$4,131,455.

"We have pretty much been running a flat line around zero for the last couple of years," Crawford Board Chairman Bruce Bretzke said. "I think that is how it should be. The county should not be keeping surplus county tax money and, of course, shouldn't be spending more than it has."

As far as the county's budget for

revenue and expenses, Bretzke said, the figures have stayed pretty much the same. There hasn't been much give and take either way.

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1997 Commission Approved Crawford County Budget					
County Department	Expense	Revenue	County Department	Expense	Revenue
Board of Commissioners	\$104,327	-----	Sheriff's Department	\$998,148	\$203,348
Circuit Court	\$142,937	\$121,200	Central Dispatch	\$215,522	\$55,660
District Court	\$148,886	\$174,900	Marine Department	\$33,690	-----
Court Appointed Attorney	\$75,000	-----	Snowmobile Enforcement	\$10,700	-----
Friend of the Court	\$191,100	\$168,311	Main Stream River Patrol	0	\$7,870
Jury Commission	\$1,300	-----	South Branch River Patrol	0	0
Probate Court	\$96,774	\$70,916	Dive and Recovery Dept	\$1,750	-----
Juvenile Agent	\$53,567	-----	County Jail	\$634,548	154,500
Community Liaison Officer	0	0	Inmate Program	0	0
Pro CT Performance Agree	0	0	Inmate Transportation	\$8,183	-----
Probation Offc Dist Court	\$15,000	-----	DARE Program	0	0
Family Counseling	0	0	ORV Grant Program	\$10,971	\$7,000
Elections	\$2,860	\$2,000	Liquor Law Enforcement	0	-----
Corporate Counsel	\$5,632	0	Off Comm Corrections Grt	0	0
Co Clerk/Reg of Deeds	\$203,025	\$187,400	Emergency Preparedness	\$18,652	\$8,900
Equalization Dept	\$105,544	-----	Animal Control	\$30,316	\$5,000
Prosecuting Attorney	\$141,716	\$52,522	Solid Waste Planning Comm	0	-----
Pros Atty Coop Reimb	\$51,638	-----	Health and Welfare	\$161,976	-----
Crime/Victim Program	\$24,682	\$15,500	Contagious Disease	\$1,000	-----
Purchasing Dept	\$50,500	-----	Substance Abuse	\$22,093	-----
Zoning and Building	\$123,599	\$142,000	Medical Examiner	\$15,000	-----
Planning Commission	\$3,875	-----	Veteran's Burials	\$5,000	-----
Zoning Bd of Appeals	\$1,950	-----	Economic Development	\$550	-----
County Treasurer	\$136,650	\$56,000	County Parks and Rec	0	-----
General Sources Treas	-----	\$2,118,354	Fringe Benefits	\$61,600	-----
State & Fed Entitlements	-----	\$520,933	Insurance	\$41,100	0
Cooperative Extension	\$35,646	-----	Contingency	0	-----
Data Processing	\$81,176	\$3,000	Installment Payment Cont	\$66,500	-----
Building and Authority	\$500	-----	Other Activities	-----	\$40,800
Building and Grounds	\$146,998	\$1,000	Tax Tribunal Refunds	\$1,500	-----
Drain Commission	\$2,000	-----	Debt Service	\$58,000	-----
Conservation	\$500	-----	Transfers In	-----	\$295,000
Gypsy Moth	0	0	Operating Transfers Out	\$65,000	-----
Other Gen Govt Activity	\$2,933	-----	TOTALS	\$4,412,114	\$4,412,114

NEW YEARS DAY

1/2 OFF

Open 7 Days

Free

M-72

NOTES NORTHERN

Section B Crawford County Avalanche

Thursday, January 2, 1997

A Look Back at the Events of 1996

JANUARY

◆ Destiny Dawn Campbell was born at 2:36 p.m. on Jan. 1, 1996, to ring in the new year. She weighed eight pounds, seven ounces.

◆ Former Grayling resident Michael Roper was named manager/director of the Otsego County Road Commission.

◆ By Jan. 11, Crawford County led the state in snowmobile accidents. Seven of those accidents occurred the week between Christmas 1995 and New Year's Day.

◆ Early and severe snows caused the northern Michigan deer herd to suffer. Deer were starving because of the inability to dig for acorns or to get to their natural browsing areas. Hundreds may have died by January 1996, of starvation. Others were killed because of the coyote who was able to run on top of the crusted snow and overtake the weak and stranded deer.



Snowmobile safety continued to be a concern throughout the snowmobile season of 1995-96.



Severe snow weakened the condition of the deer population in Northern Michigan.

◆ Mo McNamara was named the Grayling Promotional Association Woman of the Year.

◆ In the Jan. 25, 1996 issue of the *Crawford County Avalanche* it was reported that Crawford County would have a full-time prosecuting attorney by Jan. 1, 1997.

◆ The Crawford County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution at the meeting on Jan. 23, to change the conditions of the prosecuting attorney office before the upcoming election. The idea of a full-time prosecutor has been kicked around by the board for a number of years. The idea was brought up again by Commissioner Bruce Bretzke at the board's meeting earlier in January.

FEBRUARY

◆ Kate Brunskill was named 1996 Grayling Junior Miss. Ann Becks and Jennifer Jurkovich were named first and second runner-up, respectively.

◆ Four Grayling High School wrestlers were district champions - Eddie Davis, Dale Kniss, Jason Hall and Ben Malonen.

◆ District No. 6 Commissioner Bruce Bretzke received a unanimous nod from the Crawford County Board of Commissioners on Feb. 20 to become the commission's chairman for 1996.

MARCH

◆ The Frederic Volunteer Fire Department celebrated a 34-year anniversary. The first fire for the department was at Brownie's Cabins.

The fire department arrived at 12:30 a.m. in October 1962. "The fire was declared under control within eight minutes of our arrival," Ernie Barber said.

Ernie Barber has been a member of the fire department since it began. In late August, Barber was honored when the fire department's new tanker was

dedicated to him in a ceremony.

◆ Four Grayling High School students were arrested on March 11 at GHS on a drug warrant. Two females and two males were involved. Two of those apprehended were tried as adults. The others were juveniles.

◆ Gov. John Engler announced the appointment of Dennis Murphy to the 46th Circuit Court.

◆ Karl Golnick reached the 30-year anniversary as a volunteer fireman for the Grayling Fire Department.

◆ Also in March, the worst case of animal cruelty in Crawford County's history was found at a house just East of Stephan Bridge Road on M-72.

The bodies of at least 20 animals were identified. These included geese, ducks, rabbits, a goat, a guinea pig, turkeys, chickens and a dog. The house was abandoned in December when the tenant, Ira V. Grounds Sr. 59, moved to another Crawford County residence.

Only 15 bodies were recovered from the scene, because the others were frozen in ice and snow making them impossible to remove.

Autopsies were conducted and no food was found in the animals' stomachs. In fact, the only thing found in the animals' stomachs was their own waste.

Grounds was charged with 16 counts of animal cruelty and sentenced to 93 days in jail, with credit for 24 days served. He was placed on probation for 730 days.



The worst case of animal cruelty in Crawford County came to light in mid-March 1996 when the bodies of numerous animals were found starved and frozen in the snow.

APRIL

◆ On April 11, the theme for the 1996 AuSable River Festival Parade was announced as "Countries Around the World."

◆ On April 3, an early morning accident led to the arrest of a 30-year-old woman, and the hospitalization of her passenger, a 38-year-old man.

The woman was traveling southbound on E-97 at 4 a.m. She failed to stop at a stop sign at the intersection with North Down River Road.

The vehicle slid through the intersection approximately 100 feet into the woods, striking a large tree.

The driver was arrested for Operating a Vehicle Under the Influence of Liquor.

◆ On April 14, Meredith Jones, Grayling, won first place in the first horse show of the season at Hawk Hills Farm in Beaver Creek.

◆ Glen's Markets was given the National Bronze Smokey Award for outstanding service to wildlife prevention. The award was presented April 17. Nationally 10 awards were presented.

◆ On April 25, the Grayling High School boys tennis team held its first game in approximately 15 years.

◆ Also in the April 25 issue, it was reported that Tanya Rice, Grayling, was chosen to be one of 15,000 torchbearers for the 1996 Olympic Torch Relay.

◆ On April 27, 1916, Chief Shoppenagons' Hotel opened. The 80th birthday was celebrated in April 1996.

MAY

◆ In the May 2 issue, it was reported that B.J., a former resident of the Crawford County Animal Shelter, graduated from the Leader Dogs for the Blind training.

◆ The top 10 graduates in the Class of 1996 were announced. They are as follows: Sarah Amman (Valedictorian), Brooke Blaauw (Valedictorian), Carrie Hubbard (Valedictorian), Bridget Black (Salutatorian), Jill Love, Jennifer Pahssen, Ronald Silk, Nicholas Szajner, Trisha Ormsbee and Jason Thompson.

◆ Clyde Nash, 90, and his wife, Etta, were crowned King and Queen of the Crawford AuSable Adult Education Program Prom on May 10. Clyde and Etta are part of the adult ed Class of 1996, which was to graduate approximately 40 students on May 23.

◆ Nancy Lemmen was awarded the Golden Pen Award by the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association for her dedication and service in creating an exemplary publications program and for her success in showing her students on the SAGA yearbook and Norseman newspaper the way to excellence.

◆ Thane Doremire, Grayling, was named Correction Officer of the Year for Region II. Doremire, a resident unit officer, has worked at Camp Lehman for 10 years.

JUNE

◆ Marilyn Rosi and Karl Schreiner announced that they want the only seat up for election on the Crawford AuSable School Board. Rosi, the current vice president of the board, and Schreiner faced off in the polls June 10 for the four-year term which will expire in 2000. Rosi defeated Schreiner 548 to 536 in the election.



Marilyn Rosi

◆ Andrea Watson, Grayling, teamed up with other Michigan State University students to win the 1996 Bateman Case Study Competition.

◆ In early June, 10 candidates announced they would seek election to the six-seat county commission. They were Norm Bancroft, Dennis Long, John Hartman, Robert Nelson, Lynnette Corlew, Robert McLachlan Sr., David Kneff, Robert Smock Jr., Bruce Bretzke and Lawrence Mattis.

◆ The Rev. D. Dean Coursey presented his first sermon as the Lovells Chapel minister on June 20.

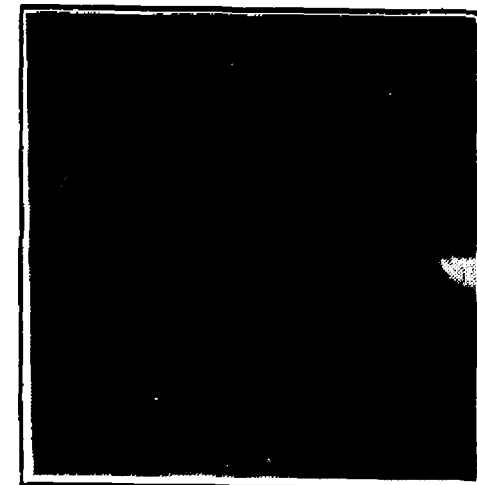
◆ In the first year of the Grayling High School track program, 14 were named all-conference - Mary Dobry, Joe Collen, Brett Hopp, Jesse Hannum, Chris Kucharek, Mickey McClain, David Sabin, Kristie Cadeau, Nicole Craigie, Brooke Ginther, Amy Godlewski, Natalie Kent, Jamie McGuire and Melissa Ostwald.

◆ Also in June, Grayling residents were awakened by a bear running through residential sections of town at 8 a.m., Monday, June 24. The first call came in around 7:30 a.m. to Mark Lutz, an officer with the Department of Natural Resources.

The bear was crossing M-72 near Skip's Sport Shop and RE/MAX of Grayling. Lutz told the caller to leave the bear alone and he would return to the forest.

However, soon after, another caller said traffic had scared the bear toward

town. Four more calls were received about the bear's location.



A bear ran through Grayling one early June morning. The bear was tranquilized and safely transported out of the area.

Crowds started to gather when the bear holed up on the banks of the AuSable River in the backyard of David Sabin on AuSable Court, just east of the I-75 Business Loop.

From there, the three-year-old 195-pound bear crossed Ingham Street to the 300 block of Elm Street. The bear then crossed Michigan Avenue to the 400 block of Plum and Erie streets. The bear was tranquilized and taken to Pigeon River.

◆ Jasper J. Johnston, a circus monkey, ran away from the Bullmania Rodeo on Saturday, June 29. The rodeo was at the Crawford County Fairgrounds. Jasper was spotted Monday, July 8, near the I-75 mile marker 258.

◆ A five-year-old Frankenmuth girl drowned in Higgins Lake, June 30.

JULY

◆ The Northern Michigan All-Stars Little League Tournament took place at Grayling High School in early July.

◆ Former Frederic resident Jim Post retired from the Hart State Police Post on July 3. The 61-year-old began his career with the state police in Cadillac, March 1, 1957. In 1967, he was transferred to the Hart Post.

◆ On July 11, it was announced that the Crawford AuSable Schools would reverse starting times for its schools.

The new hours are as follows: Grayling High School, 8:15 a.m. - 2:52 p.m.; Grayling Middle School, 8:35 a.m. - 3:07 p.m.; Grayling Elementary School/AuSable Primary, 8:40 a.m. - 3:17 p.m.; and Frederic Elementary School, 8:50 a.m. - 3:27 p.m.

◆ Beginning July 15, Dean Worden painted a mural for the American Legion Post in Grayling. The mural depicted scenes from the wars during the past 100 years, as well as a Revolutionary War portrait.

◆ The Sixth Annual Long Range Invitational Shoot at Camp Grayling Range 8 took place July 20-21. Competitors from throughout the Midwest fired cannons that were authentic full-size originals or accurate replicas from the Civil War made before 1898.

The cannons used an eight-man team to fire black powder propellants with non-exploding projectiles at 1,000-yard targets.

◆ The first ever Bear Country Inn's Paddlers Tribute Canoe Race kicked off the Annual AuSable River Canoe Marathon.

Jeff Kolk and Serge Corbin crossed the finish line in 14 hours, four minutes and five seconds to win the AuSable River Canoe Marathon.

◆ Special education teacher Beth Hamlin of Lovells Township, was appointed to the Crawford County Library Board on July 23.

AUGUST

◆ In early August it was announced that the Grayling Youth Booster Club Bingo program would be closed due to a decline in participation. The bingo program earned between \$25,000-\$30,000.

◆ A new AuSable Primary School was built. Some of the new features include having a bathroom in each classroom, as well as color and shape coded hallways so children can find their way.

◆ Dingman's Bar and Wertz Warriors raised \$20,000 for Special Olympics with their fifth annual auction and pig roast held Aug. 3.

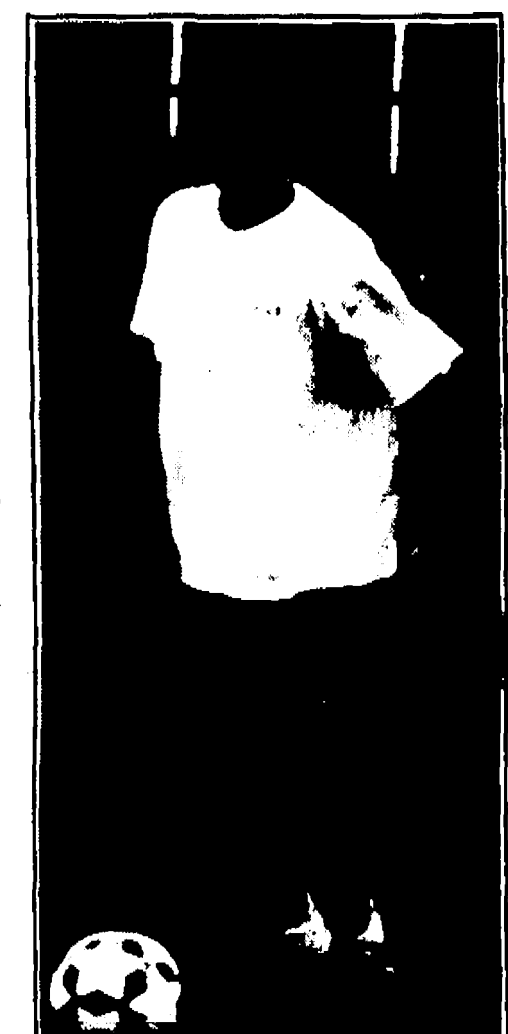
◆ In the Aug. 22 issue of the *Avalanche*, it was announced that Ferguson Field would be dedicated to Don Ferguson at the opening game of the 1996 football season.

◆ The Grayling Country Club hosted its golf club championship on August 17-18. The winner of the mens division was 16-year-old Jerry Roman. The winner of the womens division was Colleen Schroeder.

◆ Dr. Hans A. Andrew was named president of Olney College.

◆ Nicole M. Duby entered the Air Force Aug. 14.

◆ The Grayling High School boys soccer team kicked off its first official season on Aug. 26 with a loss at Oscoda 2-0.



Ravi Ramaswamy helped the Grayling High School Soccer Team kick off its first official season.

SEPTEMBER

◆ Richard L. Gay, Ph. D. FAClinP, was added to the staff at the Mercy Hospital Specialty Clinic. He began practicing Sept. 3.

◆ It was announced in September, the Grayling High School all-state basketball player, Shane Hinkle, would transfer from Delta Community College to Aquinas College.

◆ When school opened Grayling High School had a new principal, Judi Gorski.

◆ For the second year in a row, Joan Dickenson-Peters won the Hartwick Pines State Park photo contest.

◆ Also in September, a story about Peter W. Stephan in the *Avalanche* appeared. At the summer conference of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, Grayling Police Chief Stephan became the organization's president.

◆ Grayling native Anne Marie Church performed at Kirtland Community College on Sept. 28.

◆ Also in September, Nikki Siwula, Melissa Wakeley, Nick Szajner and Trisha Ormsbee became members of bands and ensembles at Central Michigan University.

◆ It was announced that Classic Container Corporation would take over the former Bear Archery plant in Grayling.

◆ Jack Ralph resigned from the Lovells Township Zoning Board of Review, as well as the Zoning Board due to an out-of-town move.

OCTOBER

◆ It was announced that a truck transfer terminal would be up and running

Continued on page 2B

DAVENPORT COLLEGE

Gaylord Center

Celebrating our 3rd year in Gaylord!!

Winter Term Begins January 13th

All classes will be held from 6:00 - 9:25 pm

Winter Course Schedule

Code	Class	Day
ACC 202	Principles of Accounting II	Monday
COM 212	Speech	Monday
MTH 135	Introduction to Algebra	Monday
MTH 302	Statistics I	Monday
FIN 340	Corporate Finance	Monday
ACC 301	Intermediate Accounting I	Tuesday
MGT 400	Leadership Effectiveness Analysis	Tuesday
MGT 300	Principles of Management	Tuesday
CIS 101	Computer Information Processing	Tuesday
ACC 342 (5 wks)	Michigan Taxation	Wednesday
CIS 151 (5 wks)	Micro. App./Spreadsheet (Begins 2/17)	Wednesday
ECO 201	Macroeconomics	Wednesday
COM 121	College Writing I	Wednesday
ACC 235 (5 wks)	Accounting Applications/Microcomputer	Thursday
ACC 236 (5 wks)	Payroll Applications/Micro. (Begins 2/17)	Thursday
MGT 424	Labor and Employment Law	Thursday
SOC 201	Political Science/Federal Government	Thursday

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Davenport College
"The Right Stuff for The Real World"



Members of the Grayling High School National Honor Society were inducted in a ceremony on Oct. 23.

Continued from page 1B

St. Martin
Lutheran Church
Wisconsin Synod



Invites you to join
us each Sunday at
9 a.m. at the
Community Center
Roscommon

in Beaver Creek Township. The operation was to produce 24 new jobs at start up.

- The Crawford County United Way set its 1996 goal at \$80,000. The co-chairs of the campaign are Bill Gannon and Jerry and Marianne Gosnell.
- Joseph Vance Wakeley was presented as Honor Alumnus '96 at the annual Grayling High School Alumni Dinner. Wakeley was born in Grayling and currently serves as Crawford County treasurer.
- The Anglers of the AuSable held its second annual clean-up of the AuSable River. More than 80 members of the organization, as well as Grayling-area residents and other groups helped in the effort.
- The Grayling High School boys

varsity baseball team was honored by the Michigan High School Athletic Association. Head baseball coach Fred Wolcott was given the "Good Sports are Winners" award for his team's excellent sportsmanship during last season's district tournament.

- Elizabeth Anderson and David Sabin were named 1996 Grayling High School Homecoming Queen and King.
- The Grayling High School golf team competed in the conference tournament at Shanty Creek, and won the event with a team record, low score of 326.
- Jerry Roman also qualified for the state tournament after finishing fourth at Regionals.
- The investigation into the F-16 military jet crash at Camp Grayling

concluded. A failed engine bearing caused the crash, but the reason for the failure may never be known.

• A settlement was reached between Crawford County and City Environmental Services, Inc. of Waters which allowed for disposal of solid waste from 21 counties, but with an annual disposal cap for the landfill.

• There were 26 new Grayling High School students inducted into the National Honor Society on Oct. 23.

NOVEMBER

• A long-time member of the Grayling Promotional Association, Rae Ann Schanz, was named 1996 Woman of the Year.

• It took extra time to count the ballots because of mechanical malfunctions in both ballot-tabulating machines. After the votes were tallied, it was revealed that Sandra Moore and Terry Wright won two of the most watched races.



Allen Lowe was re-elected for another term during November's general election.

• Local veterans and residents gathered at the American Legion Post #106 on Nov. 11 to celebrate Veteran's Day.

• The Shoppenagon Motor Hotel was closed for business by its owners in November. The hotel, bar and restaurant was put up for sale.

• Jessie Becks, daughter of Carol and Bob Becks, was chosen to perform as part of a national cheerleading group in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

DECEMBER

• Unit 1439 Engineer Detachment (fire fighting) from Camp Grayling was alerted for possible mobilization to Europe for the peace-keeping effort. The same unit was sent to the Middle East during Operation Desert Storm.

• The Crawford AuSable School District received a grant to develop a program on drug use and violence prevention.

• Grayling Middle School traveled to the Roper School Forensic Invitational and came home with a first place trophy.

• An out-of-state resident was killed in a snowmobile accident on the Blue Bear Snowmobile Trail in Crawford County.

• Plans were announced for the upcoming 1997 AuSable River Canoe Marathon. The 1997 event will celebrate the race's 50th Anniversary.

• Grayling Mayor Bob Golinick and Art Thayer, Lt. Commander of the United States Navy, retired, attended the decommissioning of the sub bearing the City of Grayling's name on Dec. 10.

• Four Michigan men, including one from Grayling, were indicted by a federal grand jury of charges relating to improper hazardous waste disposal.

• Waid Baker, a native of Grayling, created an IBM-compatible computer program that provides precise positions of the sun, moon and planets from the Earth's perspective. The program, called AstroVizier, is published through Zephyr Services, one of the leading astronomy software publishers.

• Grayling High School varsity football quarterback Nathan Beckwith was named to the Detroit Free Press All-State Honorable Mention team.

SEARS

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Kenmore®
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21.7 cu. ft. refrigerator with spill-proof glass shelves and gallon door storage. Humidity controlled twin crispers. 66281



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Save \$160 on the pair

Kenmore®
\$399⁸⁸

While quantities last. Was \$599
Closeout! Super Capacity Plus washer with double rollover Dual Action agitator, 4 temperatures, 5 water levels, porcelain top/ld. 27802

\$339⁹⁹

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Super Capacity Plus dryer with 10 cycles, 4 temperature settings and end-of-cycle signal. Lighted 27803

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Save \$10
RCA VCR. On-screen display with remote. Digital auto tracking. 55216 (Mfr. #VR339A)



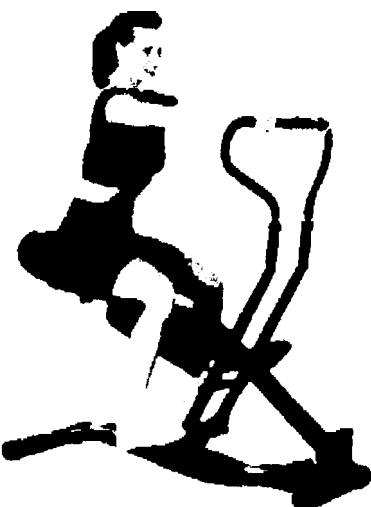
MAGNAVOX
Smart. Very smart.
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Through January 4 Reg. \$219
Save \$20
MagnaVox 19-in. TV with SmartSound® and SmartPicture®. 43043 (Mfr. #PR1916C)



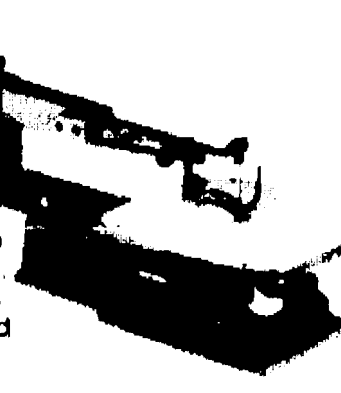
PRO-FORM
\$249⁹⁹

Seam low price
Space Saver R930 Rider tones and conditions muscles for maximum results. Folds for compact storage. 28775



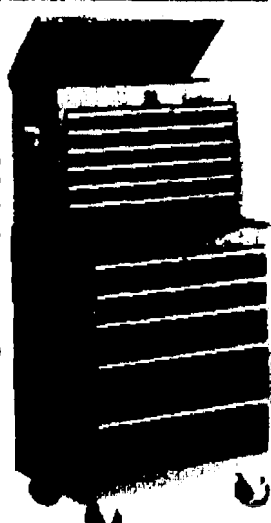
CRAFTSMAN
\$159⁹⁹

Special purchase
Craftsman 16-in. scroll saw. 16-in. throat depth-cuts to the center of a 32-in. workpiece. Accepts 5-in. pin or plain-end blades. Sawdust blower. 23615



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Craftsman 13-drawer chest and cabinet combo. Pro quality! 65755/65023
8-drawer chest, \$199.99
5-drawer cabinet, \$159.99



\$199⁹⁹

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Craftsman 230-pc. mechanic's tool set—all the tools of our 203-pc. set plus 27 additional tools! 3 quick-release ratchets. 33830



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Craftsman 9.6-volt cordless drill with 4-position adjustable torque clutch. Includes case and one battery pack. 27184



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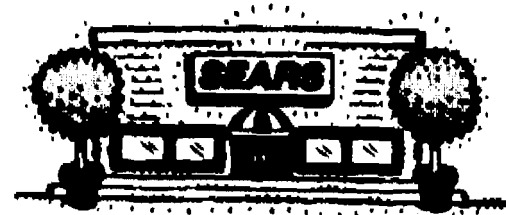
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Community BINGO Calendar

Wednesday - 11 am
Grayling Eagles Auxiliary #3465
 Eagles Club, 602 Huron
 Grayling

Wednesday - 6:30 pm
Knights of Columbus
 K of C Hall, 604 Norway
 Grayling

Thursday - 7 pm
American Legion Hall
 Post 106 - Grayling

Friday - 6:30 pm
Grayling Eagles Aerie #3465
 Eagles Club, 602 Huron
 Grayling

Saturday - 6:30 pm
Frederic Volunteer Fire Department
 Frederic Township Hall

BOWLING LEAGUE

Sunday Nite Mixed		Friday Night Mixed Doubles	
C.S.I.	6-2	Hesler Bros. Logging	7-1
Mac's Drugs	5-3	A Bulldog Towing	6-2
Computer Services	4-4	Moshier Auto Repair	5-3
Robideau Cons	4-4	Cedar Motel	4-4
All Seasons Drywall	4-4	Tees-N-Such	4-4
Us & Them	3-5	Advance Collision	3-5
D.A.M.M.	3-5	No Fear	2-6
Pioneer Hills Marine	3-5	AJD Forest Products	0-8
Men's High Game: G. Miller, 208; R. Adkinson, 191; J. Helsel, B. Starks, 180.		Men's High Game: J. Prosser, 216; R. Buskirk, 194; R. Moshier, 191.	
Men's High Series: G. Miller, 568; R. Pyle, 525; R. Adkinson, 508.		Men's High Series: J. Prosser, 563; R. Buskirk, 502; R. Moshier, 494.	
Women's High Game: J. Hinds, 187; M. Miller, 183; M. Starks, 166.		Women's High Game: K. Lozon, 187; K. Moshier, C. Evon, 179; Y. Schreiber, 176.	
Women's High Series: M. Miller, 515; J. Hinds, 509; M. Starks, 476.		Women's High Series: K. Moshier, 499; K. Lozon, 493; C. Evon, 477.	

Northwood	
Hesler Brothers	7
House of Cabinets	6
Rich's Cycle Service	6
Wakeley's Auto Parts	3
Millikin's	3
R. Calkins & Sons	3
R & M Masonry	3
Glen's	1
High Game: L. Dannenberg, 199; B. Wakeley, M. Miller, N. Tanski, 182; N. Tanski, 181.	
High Series: L. Dannenberg, 516; N. Tanski, 507; M. Miller, 491.	

National First League	
Breakers Steak House	4-0
Carquest	4-0
City Environmental	4-0
Moore's Auto Parts	3-1
Northern Whitetail Ranch	1-3
Forrest Bros.	0-4
Corky's D.J. & Karaoke	0-4
Guns & Grub	0-4
High Game: S. Moon, 223; M. Barr, 218; R. Adkinson, 216.	
High Series: R. Adkinson, 621; M. Barr, 591; S. Moon, 586.	

Pioneer League	
Aunt Betty's	4-0
Custom Interior	3-1
Deb & Dale's	3-1
Millikin's	2-2
Lady Slippers	2-2
Chemical Bank	1-3
Mercy Hospital	1-3
Avalanche	0-4
High Game: J. Goudie, 199; L. Golinick, 186; K. Morrill, 185.	
High Series: J. Yoder, 514; J. Halford, 510; L. Golinick, 503.	

POOL LEAGUE

Women's Pool League Correction	
Legion	73
Red Barn	72
Swamp II	70
Spikes	63
Plaza	62
Breakers	56

YOUTH BOWLING LEAGUE

Island Hoppers	
Beach Burns	4-0
Treasure Hunters	4-0
Wave Runners	3-1
Pearl Divers	3-1
Radioactive Coconuts	1-3
Pirates	1-3
Rain Makers	0-4
Star Gaizers	0-4
Boy's High Game: Doug Wilhelm, 190.	
Boy's High Series: Doug Wilhelm, 506.	
Girl's High Game: Nikki Strohspeid, 152.	
Girl's High Series: Nikki Strohspeid, 436.	

Beach	
Sand Pipers	3-0
Flamingo's	3-0
Wild Orchids	3-0
Sea Shells	2-1
Star Fishes	1-2
Cocoonuts	0-3
Jelly Fish	0-3
Sand Castles	0-3
Boy's High Game: Dan Corwin, 128.	
Boy's High Series: Dan Corwin, 224.	
Girl's High Game: Krystel Davis, 116.	
Girl's High Series: Krystel Davis, 228.	

Ocean	
Dolphins	23-10
Hurricanes	21-12
Sharks	19-14
Sting Rays	14-18-5
Turtles	14-18-5
Sea Horses	14-19
Title Waves	13-20
Sea Gulls	13-20
Boy's High Game: Nicholas McNamara, 144.	
Boy's High Series: Nicholas McNamara, 248.	
Girl's High Game: Alyson Helsel, 95.	
Girl's High Series: Alyson Helsel, 176.	

First Grayling Red Hacker tourney set for August

A Red Hacker basketball tournament will be taking place on basketball courts at Grayling High School Aug. 2 and 3.

The basketball tournament will consist of three-on-three half court games, four-on-four full court games and a slam dunk contest.

The three-on-three half court division will consist of three to four players per team.

The age groups are as follows (with basket height in parenthesis): age 10 and under (nine feet), ages 10-12 (nine feet), ages 12-13 (10 feet), ages 14-15 (10 feet), ages 16-17 (10 feet) and ages 18 and up (10 feet).

The four-on-four full court division will consist of four to six players per team. The full court is available in the mens division only.

The age divisions are 14-15, 15-16, 16-17-18, 18 and up (with player heights six feet, two inches or below and 18 and up with no limit on player heights. All of these age divisions will be played with a nine-foot basket.

There will also be an 18-and-over age group that uses a 10-foot basket.

The skill levels for all age groups include Top Gun (pro, semi-pro or for players with college experience), Competitive (better than average, but not quite Top Gun players), Recreational (for those players who just play for fun), Older than Dirt (special division for those maturing in life) and

Below the Net (for those players who cannot shoot, dribble or pass, but like to play).

According to Mike Shearer, one of the committee members working on the tournament, it is expected that 700 teams and 10,000 participants will take part in the Red Hacker Tournament in Grayling.

"We're holding this tournament to raise money for the Grayling Youth Booster Club," Shearer said.

The money raised will come from entry fees for teams, as well as sponsorships from businesses and individuals.

The main sponsorships will be corporate, as well as court sponsors. Corporate sponsors will have their name included on all Red Hacker Tournament T-shirts, as well as on signs and brochures promoting the event.

A court sponsor will have their name displayed on the basketball courts used during the tournament.

To take part in or sponsor the tournament, contact Jodi Potter at 348-7517, Tom Ritter at 348-2694, Rick Schmidt at 348-6287 or Mike Shearer at 348-2083.

All teams must be registered by July 19.

Other Red Hacker Tournaments will be taking place in Elkhardt, Ind., Cascadeville, St. Ignace, Pigeon and on the campus of Central Michigan University.

YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY

from Charles Tinsley, Social Security Representative
Look for Social Security benefit statement for tax purposes

In January, Social Security will send you a statement showing the total benefits you received in 1996. The statement is needed to help you determine if a portion of your benefits are taxable. For 1996, Social Security estimates that about 20 percent of beneficiaries will need to pay tax on their benefits.

If you file a federal tax return as an "individual" and your combined income (your adjusted gross income as reported on your Form 1040 plus nontaxable interest plus one-half of your Social Security benefits) is above \$25,000, you may have to pay taxes on 50 percent of your Social Security benefits. If your combined income is above \$34,000, 85 percent of your Social Security benefits is subject to income tax.

If you file a joint return, you may

have to pay taxes on 50 percent of your benefits if you and your spouse have a combined income over \$32,000. If your combined income is more than \$44,000, 85 percent of your Social Security benefits is subject to income tax.

The SSA-1099 statement you receive includes an IRS Notice 703. You'll know whether you need to pay tax on your Social Security benefits after you complete the worksheet steps on the notice.

For more information about taxable benefits, call the Internal Revenue Service toll-free at 1-800-829-3676. As for Publication 915, *Social Security and Equivalent Railroad Retirement Benefits* (and Tier I Railroad Retirement Benefits); and IRS Publication 554, *Tax Information for Older Americans*.

Area seniors take time to help others

For most of us, this is a special season of giving. But for the 81 Foster Grandparent and 59 Senior Companion volunteers who serve with Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency (NEMCSA), the holidays capture a spirit they carry throughout the year.

"Our Senior Companions and Foster Grandparents give the greatest gift of — themselves," said Laurie Sauer, director of Volunteer Programs for NEMCSA. "They give their skills, their experience, and their spirit to our communities 365 days a year."

NEMCSA covers a 12-county area comprised of Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Otsego, Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle and Roscommon.

The Senior Companion volunteers provide companionship and assistance to older individuals who are homebound or have difficulty getting out and about. They also help seniors who are living in adult foster care homes or

nursing care facilities.

Foster Grandparent volunteers serve as mentors, tutors and caregivers for children and youths with special needs in community organizations such as schools, hospitals and youth centers.

Both Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent volunteers are men and women, age 60 and older, who meet income eligibility requirements, serve 20 hours per week and receive small stipends.

Around the United States, nearly 14,000 Senior Companions help more than 33,000 frail elderly live independently and nearly 24,000 Foster Grandparents work with approximately 80,000 children. Both programs are part of the National Senior Service Corps, which also includes the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. The Senior Corps is administered by the Corporation for National Service.

MERCY HOSPITAL BIRTHS

Sandy Smith of Grayling, announces the arrival of Erica Marie, born Dec. 19, 1996.

Lisa Porter of Frederic, announces the arrival of Dayinnard Mae, born Dec. 19, 1996.

Byron and Katrina Smith of Prudenville, announce the arrival of Michaela Helen, born Dec. 18, 1996.



Taxpayers protected by new bill of rights

Congress not only legislates taxes, it also legislates taxpayer protection. That protection was strengthened last year when President Bill Clinton signed the Taxpayer Bill of Rights 2.

The Michigan Association of CPAs points out some of the changes that are particularly helpful to taxpayers, especially those experiencing hardships in meeting their tax responsibilities.

These changes include installment agreements, seizure of property, interest charges, litigation, spousal rules, mail procedures and taxpayer advocate.

Taxpayers may be able to enter into installment agreements to pay their back taxes, as long as the IRS agrees to do so. Once such a plan is set up, the IRS has the right to modify or terminate it in certain situations. However, the IRS must permit taxpayers to request a review of a decision to terminate an installment agreement. So that taxpayers don't get caught in the lurch, effective Jan. 30, 1997, the IRS also must provide 30-days notice before ending or changing the agreement.

A taxpayer is generally entitled to 30-days notice before the IRS seizes property to collect any taxes. The notice must include information about appeals and other procedures that can help taxpayers avoid liens on their property.

Under the new law, if the IRS does decide to seize the property, the value of personal property exempt from an IRS levy is increased from \$1,650 to

\$2,500 and the value of books and tools of a trade exempt from levy is increased from \$1,100 to \$1,250. In most instances, a taxpayer's principal residence is also exempt from IRS levy.

For any IRS notice issued after Dec. 31, the IRS will give taxpayers who fail to pay their full tax bill a slight reprieve from interest charges. From the time the notice is issued, the taxpayer will have 21 calendar days — up from 10 calendar days — to pay off the bill without incurring interest charges, provided the tax liability is under \$100,000.

In addition, IRS authority to abate interest is expanded to apply to interest resulting from "unreasonable" errors or delays caused by IRS employees performing "managerial" or "ministerial" duties.

The new bill will give taxpayers a better chance of recovering attorneys' fees in the event of a tax controversy. That's because the burden of proof is shifted to the government.

It is now required that the government prove its position was substantially justified before taxpayers would be precluded from recovering such fees. Be aware that for tax purposes, "attorney fees" also refers to the fees of any individuals authorized to practice before the IRS, such as CPAs and enrolled agents.

If a person wins a case against the IRS, they may now recoup additional restitution. That's because the new

law increased from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000 the "actual, direct economic" damages recoverable by taxpayers victimized by "reckless" IRS collection action.

Don't know why your ex-spouse is being questioned by the IRS? Under the new rules, if you've filed a joint return with your spouse and are now separated or divorced, you can contact the IRS to find out why the IRS is trying to collect taxes from your former spouse. The rule went into effect July 30.

Also, Congress made it easier for married individuals to switch their filing status as of July 31 of last year. They can now switch from filing separately to filing jointly, even if they cannot pay the joint liability in full.

Another beneficial tax-law change is the recognition of private mailing services to meet the "timely-mailing-as-timely-filing rule." In the past, only the U.S. Postal Service was recognized.

New rules now recognize other private mail carriers, as long as they meet certain criteria. The IRS will designate the private services that qualify for purposes of this rule.

Taxpayers who need help in resolving problems with the IRS can do so through the Taxpayer Advocate. The Taxpayer Advocate reports directly to the IRS Commissioner and has expanded authority to assist taxpayers who may be suffering significant hardship because of IRS actions.

TRI-LAKES HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

Wishes to welcome our new members for November...

Hearth N Home Inc., Houghton Lake
Knee/Kole Construction, Roscommon

TRI-LAKES HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION
 ROSCOMMON, MI 48653
 275-4759

Hey! It's time to register at Kirtland!

Apply now for admission to the
 1997 Winter Semester

Registration is
January 8 - 10

Call the Admissions Office **now** to apply
517-275-5121 Ext. 284

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 the place to be today...
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 308 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling, Michigan 49738

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Snow flies, cross country ski season begins

by Lisa Hofman
Staff Reporter

Cross country skiing for the 1996-97 season has already begun. Numerous places in and around the Grayling area have their trails groomed and their ski shops open.

According to Dave Forbush, at Frederic's Forbush Corner, there are two ways to cross country ski -- classical or skating.

"They look different, but they are virtually the same," Forbush said.

In the classical style the skis remain parallel and there is a sliding stride. The skating stride is "an ice skating technique," Forbush continued.

Hanson Hills, the Cross Country Ski Shop and Forbush Corner have trails groomed to accommodate both the classical and skating style.

However, Hanson Hills State Park has trails groomed only to accommodate the classical style cross country skiers.

At Forbush Corner there are 40 kilometers of groomed trail throughout five trail systems, as well as a lighted trail for night skiing.

Hartwick Pines has one trail system with three loops. The Aspen trail has three miles, Deer Run is a five mile trail and the Weary Legs Trail is seven and one-half miles long. To access the trail system skiers must have a

state park permit.

Hanson Hills has 35 kilometers of trail over five loops in one trail system.

At the Cross Country Ski Shop there are three trails for a total distance of two and one-half miles. There is also a lighted one mile trail loop.

Forbush said when first beginning to cross country ski the best thing to do is rent the skiing equipment and receive skiing instructions.

"Rental skis are wider, slower and more stable," Forbush said. "It makes it easier for beginners to remain on their feet."

Rental equipment and skiing instruc-

tion is available at all of the skiing areas except Hartwick Pines State Park.

When dressing to go cross country skiing, Forbush advises to wear layers of thin synthetic fabrics.

"One heavy layer of socks is all that is needed," Forbush said. "If socks are layered the skier won't fit into the boots because their foot will be too wide."

When skiing, boots will be worn so feet should not get wet or cold even with only one layer of socks.

For those who downhill ski, Skyline and Hanson Hills are open and groomed for downhill skiing, as well as other winter events.



TRAILS, READY FOR ACTION — Cross Country skiing in Crawford County is beginning to heat up with the recent winter conditions. Cross country ski trails, like this one at Forbush Corners, are now open. Trails at Hanson Hills and Hartwick Pines State Park are open from dawn to dusk. Night skiing is also available.

Photo courtesy of David Forbush

Football Contest

Sandi Enos was the winner in the final week of the football contest, with 59 out of a possible 63 correct. Brian Kernstock, Jim Elliott, E. J. Metzger, Brian Noeske, Butch Brown and Denise Boonie also had 59 points, but Enos' tiebreaker pick of 48 was closer to the actual score of 57, than any of the others. There were 136 entries in this week's contest.

There was an error listed in last week's paper. Everyone who picked Washington in game #12 did receive five points.

Eric Thompson is the overall winner in this year's contest. He led most of the way and held on to the end, to win with a total of 315 points. Following were Rod Wade, 309, Ted Rondeau, 304, Joanna Cottenham, 302, Joe R. Thompson, 300, and John Cottenham, 300.

Last week's winning teams were:

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Jacksonville (2) | 7. Wisconsin (2) | 13. Iowa (2) |
| 2. Dallas (5) | 8. Miami (Fla.) (5) | 14. Louisiana St. (5) |
| 3. Pittsburgh (2) | 9. Jacksonville (2) | 15. Wisconsin (2) |
| 4. San Francisco (5) | 10. Dallas (5) | 16. Miami (Fla.) (5) |
| 5. Iowa (2) | 11. Pittsburgh (2) | 17. Free (2) |
| 6. Louisiana St. (5) | 12. San Francisco (5) | 18. Free (5) |

Real Estate Foreclosure Sale

Crawford County Courthouse
Thursday, Jan. 16, 1997 at 10 am

Address: 6232 M-72 West, Grayling, MI 49738
Minimum Bid: \$26,351 • Three bedrooms, one bath
Redemption: Six (6) Months

Offer must be in form of certified check or money order the day of the sale.
Equal Housing Opportunity

For information contact Rural Development at:
240 W. Wright St.
West Branch, MI 48661
(517) 345-5470

LEGAL NOTICE

To the Owner or Owners of any and all Interests in, or Leins upon the Lands herein described:

State of Michigan, County of Crawford, Lot 274, Upponthe No. 3 (This parcel is an improved residential parcel), Sec. 020, Town 100.

TAKE NOTICE: Sale was lawfully made of the following described land for unpaid taxes on that land, and that the undersigned as title to the land under tax deed or deeds issued for the land. You are entitled to a reconveyance of this land within 6 months after return of service of this notice, upon payment to the undersigned or to the treasurer of the county in which the land is situated, of all sums paid for the tax sale purchase, together with 50% in addition, and the fees of the sheriff for the service or cost of publication of this notice. The service or publication costs shall be the same as if for personal service of a summons upon commencement of an action, together with a sum of \$5.00 for each description, without other additional cost or charge. If payment as described in this notice is not made, the undersigned will institute proceedings for possession of the land.

Amount necessary to redeem: \$655.67 taxes for 1992 plus the fees of the sheriff.

Signed: Louis F. Cohrs
11794 Old 27 South Box 219
Waters, MI 49797

To: Kenneth Baker and Mrs. Kenneth Baker
8869 Nottingham Drive
Ypsilanti, MI 48198-3224

last grantee in the regular chain of title of such lands or of any interest therein as appearing by the records in the office of the Register of Deeds of said County.

-19-26-2-9

LEGAL ACTION

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE SALE

Default having been made in the conditions of a certain Mortgage made by WILLIAM A. WINGFIELD and MARY K. WINGFIELD, husband and wife, whose address is 6232 M-72 West, Grayling, Michigan 49738 to THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, acting through the Farmers Home Administration (now known as Rural Development), United States Department of Agriculture, with its District Office being located at 3197 Logan Valley Road, Traverse City, Michigan 49684, the Mortgage, dated August 30, 1993, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Crawford and State of Michigan on August 30, 1993, in Liber 364 of Crawford County Records on Pages 514 through 517, inclusive, such Mortgage being given to secure a loan to such Borrower on said date owing to the Government concerning the real estate hereafter described, and also by virtue of said Mortgage such Borrower on said date of August 30, 1993 assumed a prior Mortgage obligation owing to the Government by virtue of a certain real estate Mortgage made by Brent P. Shelpman and Cynthia L. Shelpman, husband and wife, to USDA, Farmers Home Administration, dated May 22, 1991 and recorded May 22, 1991 in Liber 325 of Crawford County Records on Pages 276 through 279, inclusive, which Mortgage obligation also included an assumption of a prior Mortgage obligation owing to the Government by virtue of a certain real estate Mortgage made by Michael J. Campbell and Mary E. Campbell, husband and wife, to USDA, Farmers Home Administration, dated November 25, 1981 and recorded in Liber 202 of Crawford County Records on Pages 377 through 380, inclusive, which obligations were expressly assumed by the borrowers, William A. Wingfield and Mary K. Wingfield, husband and wife, by virtue of a certain Assumption Agreement. By reason of such default the Mortgagee elects to declare the entire unpaid amount of such Mortgage due and payable forthwith, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED TWENTY AND 02/100 (\$35,320.02) DOLLARS, and no proceedings having been instituted to recover the debt now remaining secured by said Mortgage, or any part thereof, whereby the power of sale contained in said Mortgage has become operative.

Now Therefore, Notice is Hereby Given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and in pursuance of the statute in such case made and provided, the said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the premises therein described or so much thereof as may be necessary, at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the front lobby of the Crawford County Courthouse located at 200 W. Michigan Avenue in the City of Grayling and County of Crawford, Michigan, that being the place of holding the Circuit Court in and for said County, on Thursday January 16, 1997 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., local time, in the forenoon of said day, and said premises will be sold to pay the amount so as aforesaid then due on said Mortgage together with 7.75 percent interest, legal costs, attorneys' fees and also any taxes and insurance that said Mortgagee does pay on or prior to the date of said sale; which said premises are described in said Mortgage as follows, to-wit:

Lands and premises situated in the Township of Grayling, County of Crawford, and State of Michigan:

Lot No. 10, Pine Point Subdivision, being a part of the North 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 13, Town 26 North, Range 4 West, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 38, Crawford County Records. (Also commonly known as 6232 M-72 West, Grayling, Michigan 49738.)

The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

For further information with regard to this foreclosure contact: Rural Development (formerly Farmers Home Administration), 240 West Wright Street, West Branch, Michigan 48661, telephone (517) 345-5470, facsimile

The Avalanche

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

(517) 348-6811
FAX 348-6806

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE — Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Robert A. HOWDEN and Lisa R. HOWDEN, husband and wife to Express Funding, Inc., a Nevada Corporation, dba EFL Funding, Mortgage, dated January 26, 1996 and recorded on February 1, 1996 in Liber 406, on page 446; 453, Crawford County Records, Michigan, and was assigned by mesne assignments to BANKERS TRUST COMPANY, as Trustee as assignee, by an assignment dated November 12, 1996, which was recorded on December 9, 1996, in Liber 422, on Page 442, Crawford County Records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Twenty-Four Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Seven and 23/100 dollars (\$24,657.23), including interest at 11.29% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan at 11:00 AM o'clock, on February 5, 1997.

Said premises are situated in City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 3, Block 24, ROFFEES ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF GRAYLING, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 01, Page 11, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948 CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 26, 1996
BANKERS TRUST COMPANY, as Trustee
FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
(810) 642-4202
Trott & Troil, P.C.

Attorneys for BANKERS TRUST COMPANY, as Trustee,
30150 Telegraph
Suite 100
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025
File #96105844

-26-2-9-16-23

(517) 345-4010.

Dated: December 11, 1996
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, acting through the Farmers Home Administration (now Rural Development), United States Department of Agriculture, Mortgage
Robert J. Zitta (P22749)
Attorney for Mortgagee
SCHEUERLE & ZITTA
300 Washington Street
P.O. Box 212
Grand Haven, MI 49417
(616) 842-1470

-19-26-2-9

STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF CRAWFORD

File No: 96-3953-CH
ERVIN C. CAMPBELL and JEANETTE B. CAMPBELL, husband and wife,
Plaintiff
v.
KENNETH E. HARRIS
Defendants
CAREY & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
By William L. Carey (P31602)
Attorney for Plaintiff
2375 S. I-75 Business Loop,
P.O. Drawer 665
Grayling, MI 49738
517-348-5232

NOTICE OF LAND CONTRACT FORECLOSURE BY SALE
CAREY & ASSOCIATES, P.C., is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

In pursuance and by virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for the County of Crawford, State of Michigan, made and entered in the above-entitled cause on the 26th day of November, 1996, notice is hereby given that the Crawford County Clerk shall sell at public sale to the highest bidder, at the front door of the County Building in the City of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan on the 17th of January, 1997 at 10:00 in the forenoon, the following described property, located in the Township of Maple Forest, County of Crawford, State of Michigan, to-wit:

PARCEL 1, North one-half of the following described parcel: Being a part of the north 1/2 of Section 19, T28N, R3W, described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 corner of said Section 19; thence N 87°51'16" W, 607.37 feet; thence N 0°16'09" W, 397.54 feet to Point of Beginning; thence N 0°16'09" W, 1190.89 feet; Thence S 88°12'28" E, 1577.59 feet to the Westerly right of way of I-75; Thence 1027.59 feet along a curve to the right, with a radius of 11344.19 feet and a long chord of S 7°31'25" W, 1027.24 feet; thence N 88°20'23" W, 744.93 feet; thence S 89°04'22" West, 668.34 feet to the Point of Beginning. Contains 20.12 acres.

CAREY & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
By: William L. Carey (P31602)
Attorney for Campbells
2375 S. I-75 Business Loop,
P.O. Drawer 665
Grayling, MI 49738

-12-19-26-2-9-16

NEWS 348-6811

PUBLIC NOTICE

CRAWFORD COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY PROPOSED STATE AND FEDERAL GRANT APPLICATION FOR OPERATING AND CAPITAL ASSISTANCE

All citizens are advised that the Crawford County Transportation Authority, hereinafter referred to as the Authority, has prepared an application for State of Michigan Financial Assistance for fiscal year 1998/99, as required under Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended, and for Federal Assistance (Section 5309 and Section 5311) as required under the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended.

The request for State Operating Assistance totals \$322,175. The request for Federal Operating Assistance totals \$70,879.

The Authority is additionally requesting Capital Support in conjunction with the Grant Application. Capital support requests include, but are not fully limited to: (1) six (6) replacement vehicles equipped with wheelchair lifts (estimated total cost of \$449,850); (2) maintenance tools (estimated cost \$6,000); (3) electronic monitoring equipment (estimated cost \$24,000); (3) replacement and upgraded computer equipment (estimated cost \$3,800); and additional electronic data processing equipment (estimated cost not yet determined).

The proposed application is on file at the administrative offices of the Authority, located at 590 West North Down River Road, Grayling Township, Michigan, and may be reviewed weekdays during a thirty (30) day period ending February 1, 1997, between the hours of 9:30 am and 4:30 pm.

Written comments are invited on the application. Alternatively, any citizen may request in writing that a formal hearing be held concerning the social, economic and environmental effects of these proposals. Written requests must be post marked on or before February 1, 1997.

Submittals should be mailed to:

Crawford County Transportation Authority
4276 West North Down River Road
Grayling, Michigan 49738

"An Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer"

-2-

SENIOR PERSPECTIVE

A monthly service to our Senior Citizens

Guidelines for arthritis patients spell 'empower'

More than 37 million Americans suffer from arthritis — the nation's number-one crippling disease. For many, the diagnosis is both physically and emotionally disabling. But now, a cadre of 500 of these individuals have joined together to show both physicians and fellow patients that with a little teamwork, it doesn't have to be that way. They have been "empowered" through a unique program called Searle Patient Partners in Arthritis.

Trained to serve as educators, Patient Partners teach medical students how to perform a joint exam, speak to practicing physicians about effective doctor-patient communication, and reach out to others with arthritis through community forums and educational materials. And now, consumers across the country can learn more about how to become partners with their own physician by calling a toll-free hotline, 1-800-ARTH-INFO (1-800-278-4463), funded by the program's sponsor, Searle Pharmaceuticals.

Here are a few tips offered by Searle Patient Partners:

Education: Teach yourself about your disease by reading, attending seminars, asking your doctor questions and talking to others who also have your illness. Learning the basic medical terminology helps you communicate more effectively with your

physician, enabling you to get the most out of visits to your doctor. Also, you'll learn about the pros and cons of the different treatments available.

Medication: Taking medication, as prescribed by your physician, is a vital part of your overall health care. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, or NSAIDs, are the most common medications prescribed to treat arthritis symptoms such as pain and inflammation. It's important to be involved in decisions about your medications; ask your doctor and pharmacist about possible side effects and potential interactions with other medications you may be taking.

Keep a log to record when you take your medication, note any unusual symptoms and monitor improvement.

Physician/Patient Communication: Be assertive. Open communication between patient and physician is critical.



Lee S. Simon, M.D., assistant professor of medicine at Harvard

Medical School and rheumatologist at Deaconess Hospital, Boston, says, "Two-way communication between doctor and patient is imperative. Doctors can prescribe specific medical treatments and can recommend exercise regimens, but our success will be limited if patients aren't equipped to build on these treatments by taking other steps to improve their health."

Outlook: A positive attitude has a powerful effect and is essential to your overall well-being. Reach out to others who have your disease by joining local support groups. Reward yourself for the day's small successes rather than focusing on what you couldn't accomplish.

Willingness: Acceptance of the disease is one of the most difficult obstacles for newly diagnosed arthritis patients to accept. One of the keys to acceptance is recognizing that your lifestyle must be altered.

Exercise: Exercise is an excellent way to alleviate stress, improve your attitude and maintain your physical well-being. Exercise that doesn't place direct stress on joints, such as swimming, bicycling and walking, should be part of a complete, physician-coordinated treatment plan. A physical therapist can offer specifics if you need one-on-one instruction; ask your doctor for a referral.

Relaxation: Take time out for yourself. Find ways to conserve energy. Patient Partner Jennifer Finch offers a suggestion for saving time and energy: "I keep a wicker basket at the foot of the stairs. Throughout the day, I toss items in it that need to go upstairs so at the end of the day, I make only one trip."

Clip & Save Calendar From Crawford County Commission On Aging

308 Lawndale Dr., Grayling, MI

JANUARY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p><i>Happy New Year</i></p>		<p>1. NEW YEAR'S DAY CENTER CLOSED</p>	<p>2. "Lucky 7" Casino Trip 9:30 - Literature Class</p>	<p>3. 10:00 - Hobby Club 5. Sunday Brunch Eggs-omelet style 10 AM - 1 PM</p>
<p>6. 10:00 - Crafts 12:00 - Stag Cards 1:00 - RSVP Women 5:30 - Dominoes</p>	<p>7. 10:00 - Exercise 11:00 - Line Dance 12:30 - A New Year's Dance with Tina</p>	<p>8. COMMODITIES 10:30 - Bible Study 12:30 - "BK" Bingo 1:00 - Stag Club Foot clinic by appointment</p>	<p>9. BPs 11:00-12 noon 9:30 - Literature Class 1:00 - "Pantry Bingo"</p>	<p>10. 10:00 - Hobby Club</p>
<p>13. 10:00 - Crafts 12:00 - Stag Cards 1:00 - RSVP Women 5:30 - Dominoes</p>	<p>14. 10:00 - Exercise 11:00 - Line Dance 1:00 - Cards 5:30 - Yahtzee</p>	<p>15. 10:30 - Bible Study 12:30 - Birthday Luncheon 1:00 - Stag Club 5:30 - COA Board Meeting</p>	<p>16. "Lucky 7" Casino Trip 9:30 - Literature Class 1:00 - "Pantry Bingo"</p>	<p>17. 10:00 - Hobby Club 1:30 - Legal Help 19. 4:00 - Sunday Brunch Bring & Dish to Pass</p>
<p>20. 10:00 - Crafts 12:00 - Stag Cards 1:00 - RSVP Women 5:30 - Hangman</p>	<p>21. 10:00 - Exercise 11:00 - Line Dance 1:00 - Cards 12:30 - Dance with Tina</p>	<p>22. 10:30 - Bible Study 1:00 - Stag Club</p>	<p>23. BPs 11:00-12 noon 9:30 - Literature Class 1:00 - "Pantry Bingo"</p>	<p>24. 10:00 - Hobby Club</p>
<p>27. 10:00 - Crafts 12:00 - Stag Cards 1:00 - RSVP Women 5:30 - Dominoes</p>	<p>28. 10:00 - Exercise 11:00 - Line Dance 1:00 - Cards 5:30 - Yahtzee</p>	<p>29. 10:30 - Bible Study 1:00 - Stag Club</p>	<p>30. "Lucky 7" Casino Trip 9:30 - Literature Class 1:00 - "Pantry Bingo"</p>	<p>31. 10:00 - Hobby Club</p>

Blood pressures and blood sugars taken

The Commission on Aging nurse will be on hand to take blood pressures and also offer blood sugar screenings for a suggested donation of \$2.

Remember, this is suggested; there is no cost for the blood pressures and both are done on a walk-in basis. Remember, this happens on the second and fourth Thursdays, Jan. 9 and 23 from 11 a.m. to noon.

Toll-free number is now available

Now, folks can call the Commission on Aging toll-free on its new 888 number. Persons living outside the 348 exchange can reach the commission without charge, by calling 1-888-355-4500.

Persons can use it to inquire about services that they might need, or find out what the commission is having for lunch, etc. This is being provided as a service to the community of seniors and their families.

Commodities to be distributed at church

MIC and senior commodities will be distributed at the Free Methodist Church on M-72 West. The date this month is on Wednesday, Jan. 8, from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

Those seniors that live in the senior housing complex will have theirs delivered by volunteers after 2 p.m. on that day.

Also, if any senior will not be able to pick up their commodities during the time allotted at the Free Methodist Church and would like to pick them up later at the Senior Center, please let the commission know so that they can have them here for you.

They must be picked up within three days. The commission has to have the request in before the next distribution date.

This monthly page is brought to you as a service to our Senior Citizens by this local sponsor:

ROCHETTE'S

508 N. James • Grayling, MI • Phone: 348-9612

Hours: 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Mon. - Thurs. - Sun. 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. - Fri. & Sat. 7 a.m. to Midnight

WIC COUPONS AND FOOD STAMPS ACCEPTED

We reserve the right to limit quantities. Not responsible for printing errors. All items may not be available in all stores.



SENIOR
CITIZEN
DISCOUNT
DAYS
TUESDAY &
WEDNESDAY OF
EVERY WEEK

FEATURES

YOUR HOROSCOPE

Forecast For: January 12 - 18, 1997

- ARIES**
March 21-April 19
Your career may undergo major bypass surgery. An artery may be damaged, but your heart will heal.
- TAURUS**
April 20 - May 20
Enrich your education by enrolling in night classes. You're never too old to learn.
- GEMINI**
May 21 - June 20
A distant relative tries to establish a hold on your time. Be pleasant and agreeable, but don't let them steam-roll you.
- CANCER**
June 21 - July 22
A romantic weekend lies ahead. Celebrate old times and especially remember the good ones.
- LEO**
July 23 - Aug 22
A quick dose of reality will bring you back down to earth. Don't look for a quick fix to an old problem.
- VIRGO**
Aug 23 - Sept 22
Your role needs more definition. Demand to be told what is expected of you; don't let anyone walk all over you.
- LIBRA**
Sept 23 - Oct 22
Compare price and flexibility when purchasing a major item. Weigh the alternatives.
- SCORPIO**
Oct 23 - Nov 21
Expectations have gotten out of hand. No one is perfect...especially, you. Don't make demands.
- SAGITTARIUS**
Nov 22 - Dec 21
Dreams can come true, but they will need a little help. Keep your feet on the floor and your head in the clouds.
- CAPRICORN**
Dec 22 - Jan 19
Do not make commitments you have no intention of keeping. A man is only as good as his promise.
- AQUARIUS**
Jan 20 - Feb 18
Communicate with your mate in a manner that he or she can relate to. Don't over-extend yourself.
- PISCES**
Feb 19 - March 20
Your neck is on the line. Family members are counting on you to do the right thing.



PET CARE TIPS

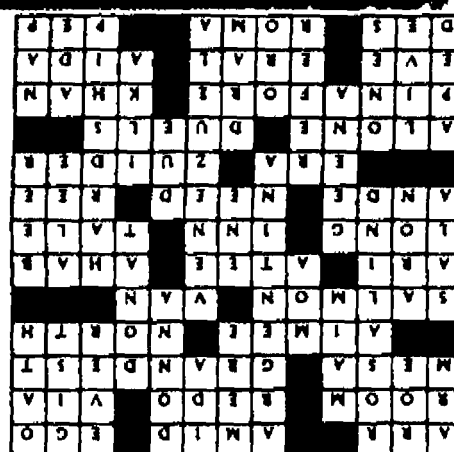
The backbone of modern pet care includes preventive medicine — specifically vaccinations — says the National Humane Education Society. Vaccinations are highly effective in preventing infectious diseases in dogs and cats. Of course, if a pet is already exposed, vaccinating him will not alter the course of the disease, which is why it is so important to begin preventive treatment early and to keep vaccinations current.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Timetable abbr.
4. Among
8. Self
11. "___ at the Top"
13. Reconstruct
14. By way of
15. Verde
- National Park
16. Largest
18. Evangelist
- McPherson
20. Towards the Arctic
21. Coho or parr
23. Cliburn or Johnson
24. Onassis
25. Suited to
27. Jezebel's husband
31. Shelley or Huey
33. Tavern
34. Two cities story
35. So. Am. range
36. Desire
38. Enclosure
39. Historical period
41. Zee
43. Solo
46. Two person combats
47. Apron relative
49. Kubla

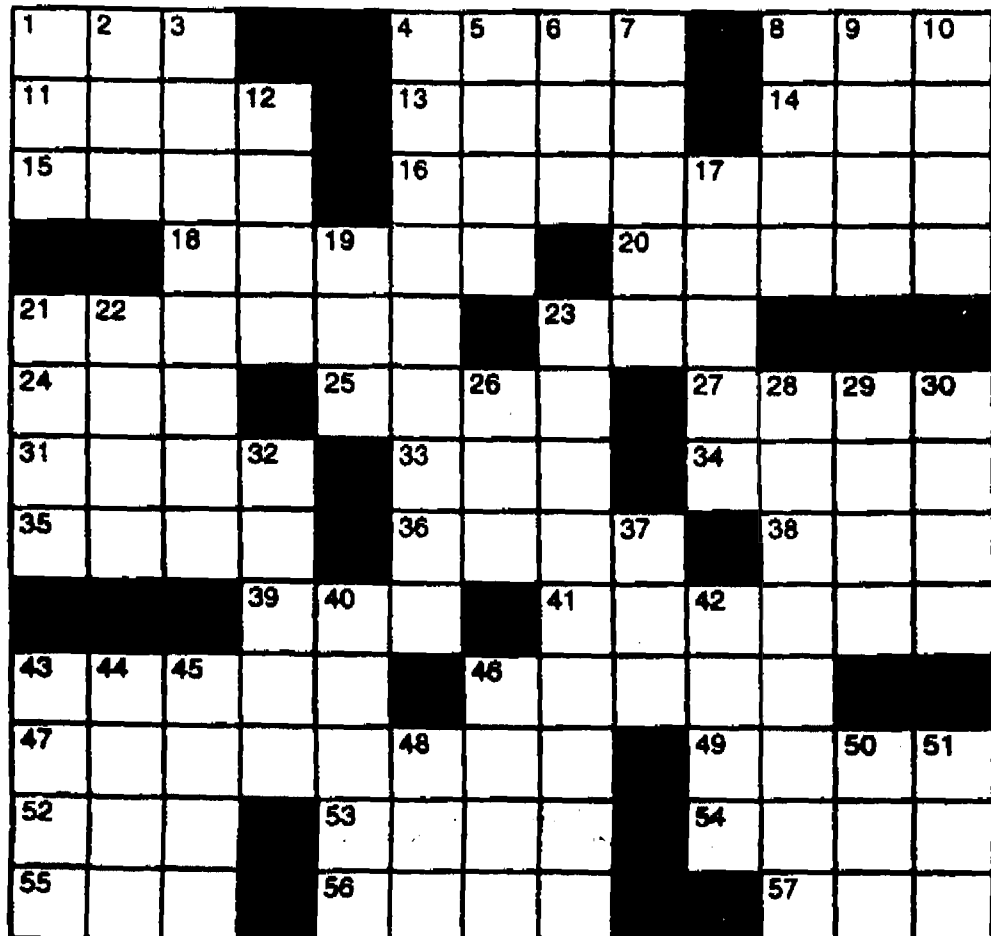
52. Actress Arden
53. Epochal
54. Counted cross stitch cloth
55. Plaines, Ill.
56. NW of Napoli
57. Vigor



DOWN

1. Weapon
2. Dodger player
3. A Russell
4. Second largest So. Am. country
5. Pere's mate
6. cider gal
7. Reed or Mills
8. Always
9. Main idea
10. Vow
12. Disable
17. Portrayed the Count of Monte Cristo
19. Flightless New Z. bird

21. Spanish room
22. Elvis Presley
23. Guyana's neighbor
26. Compass Dir.
28. Rigor
29. Leeward
30. Milwaukee product
32. An acting Davis
37. "The devil will have his ___"
40. Allude
42. Actress and author Chase
43. Limited
44. "Prime time ___"
45. Till items
46. A small amount
48. spanish gold
50. Summer sipper
51. Short snooze



A LOOK AT OUR PAST FROM THE PAGES OF THE AVALANCHE

23 Years Ago January 3, 1974

Sister Mary Hilda, Administrator of Mercy Hospital, announced that the hospital is raising its bed capacity to 106. The newest member of the management staff at the hospital is Mr. R. Duane Nimke, who has been made Director of Personnel and Public Relations. He has been with Mercy for one year.

A Crawford County woman was shot and fatally wounded last Friday night, Dec. 28th, on M-76 between Roscommon and St. Helen in an apparently senseless ambush by an unidentified rifleman.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kesby of May Lake Road, had friends and family over the Christmas week. They were Mrs. Glen Berthke from Clinton, who arrived on Friday, December 21, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lance and baby of Albion, and Miss Debbie of Lake Margrethe and Angelo Lendrin of Ellsworth. They all had a wonderful visit and helped cheer up Mrs. Kesby who fell off the back porch the 13th of December and is laid up for awhile. Sorry you got hurt.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas McIntyre were here to visit her mother, Mary Norton for Christmas. While they were here, they had their marriage vows renewed at the St. John Lutheran Church. Rev. Robert Haskel performed the ceremony. A friend of the family was here also, Sam Baldwin of Garden City. They had dinner at the San Sheri that evening to celebrate.

Mr. and Mrs. Travis Leonard and family left for a 10 day visit to their home in Broken Bow, Oklahoma. They are greatly missed by their friends.

The nation goes on year round daylight savings time on January 6, and the saving in heating and electricity is estimated at 3 percent of the nation's projected energy shortage.

Mrs. Fred Niederer's children and families were at her home Saturday evening following the wedding of her granddaughter, Lynette Niederer and Mike Corlew.

Spending the Christmas holidays with the Robert Bovees were their daughters, Dena of Kalamazoo College and Billie of Kingston, New York; also visiting was Michael White of Wayne State University.

Karen Schwarz, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Schwarz, came home from Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City to spend the holidays.

Mike McNamara returned home from Ferris State College over the holidays.

The Ray Slussers had a wonderful Christmas this year. The entire family was together for the first time in seven years.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Gauthier and family spent Christmas with relatives

in Detroit.

The first Lovells community card party will be on Saturday, January 5, at the Ladies Club room, starting at 8:00 p.m. Pot luck and all are invited.

46 Years Ago January 4, 1951

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bielski announce the arrival of an infant daughter at Mercy Hospital on December 30.

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Buron are happy over the arrival of Tim Joseph at Mercy Hospital on December 29.

Conservation Department field men are investigation reports of early deer starvation in the northern lower peninsula.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Douglas and daughter, Sylvia Ann, spent a number of days with relatives here, returning to Elkhart, Indiana on Tuesday.

Maryda Stillwagon spent her holiday vacation in Lovells with her grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Weaver are home from Xmas vacation and family in Detroit.

Ken Burkhardt is home from Xmas vacation in Flint.

Elroy Barber of Clare, spent the holidays home with his family.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wilson and son, Douglas spent New Years weekend in Alpena.

John Krage surprised his parents Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Krage by arriving here on Friday to spend several days.

Mrs. Bertha Peterson was hostess at a series of Christmas teas last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Presiding at the tea tables were Mrs. John Brady, Mrs. Ernest Hoesli and Mrs. Charles Piper.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Davis and daughters, Connie and Gwen, spent the weekend in Flint visiting Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Woods.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Morency and daughters, Juanita and Donna, returned home Monday after spending the holidays visiting relatives in Detroit and Dearborn.

Victor Papendick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Papendick, Jim Feldhauser, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Feldhauser and Ernie Miller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Miller, have enlisted in the Air Corps and all left Monday evening for Detroit enroute to Texas. Martin Kitchen returned home Friday evening after spending two months in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

69 Years Ago January 5, 1928

The local telephone exchange owned and operated by Melvin A. Bates for many years, has, with the passing of the old year of 1927 passed from his ownership to that of Dr. O.

M. Vaughan of South Haven, representing the Onaway Alpena Telephone Company.

Among the out of town guests in attendance at the Charity Ball last Thursday evening were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rockwell, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Haight, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff McKinnon, Supt. and Mrs. Burkett, Miss Janice Bailey, Miss Leona Gocha, Mrs. Longdo, Lyle Merry, Willard Johnson, Leland Shipp, Aler Cole, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Mielstrup, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Lubnau, Elmer Jorgenson, Mr. and Mrs. John Gross, Bernard Johnson, Mrs. Roy Brickley, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Duvall, Norma Lebahn, George Lowery, Van Stewart, Charlie Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hermann, Miss Elizabeth Jerome, LeRoy Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Arnold.

Miss Margaret Burrows of Flint is visiting at the home of her brother, Arnold and family.

Mrs. William Green and children of Detroit are guests of Mr. and Mrs. Rasmus Madsen for a few days.

Terry O'Brien of Lansing is the new yardmaster at the Michigan Central yard office here. He was a resident of Grayling when a boy.

George Van Patten has returned to his duties at the Try It Cafe after a week spent with his sister Mrs. Glen Penard in Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bousson entertained several ladies and gentlemen at a dinner party at their home on New Years eve. After dinner, cards were enjoyed. Mrs. J. W. Letkus and Emil Kraus holding high score for "500" and Mrs. B. J. Callahan and Alex LaGrow consolation.

Cletus St. Pierre has gone to Niles, where he is employed by the Michigan Central Railroad Co.

Esmond Houghton is carrying his left arm in a sling as the result of having a thumb smashed while loading pulpwood.

Mrs. James Bowen of Detroit visited at the George Bielski home over New Years.

Mrs. Jess Schoonover, Mrs. Carl Peterson and Mrs. Emil Giegling motored to Saginaw Wednesday to hear the noted young singer, Miss Marion Talley.

Mrs. Samuel Johnson, highly respected resident of Frederic for over 20 years passed away in that village Tuesday afternoon at the age of 62 years.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Preston were guests at Mrs. Preston's (Erma Craven) home for Xmas.

Miss Louise Hawkes visited her parents at Hillsdale over the holidays.

Mrs. Ed Welch is enjoying a visit from her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Crawford of Barton City.

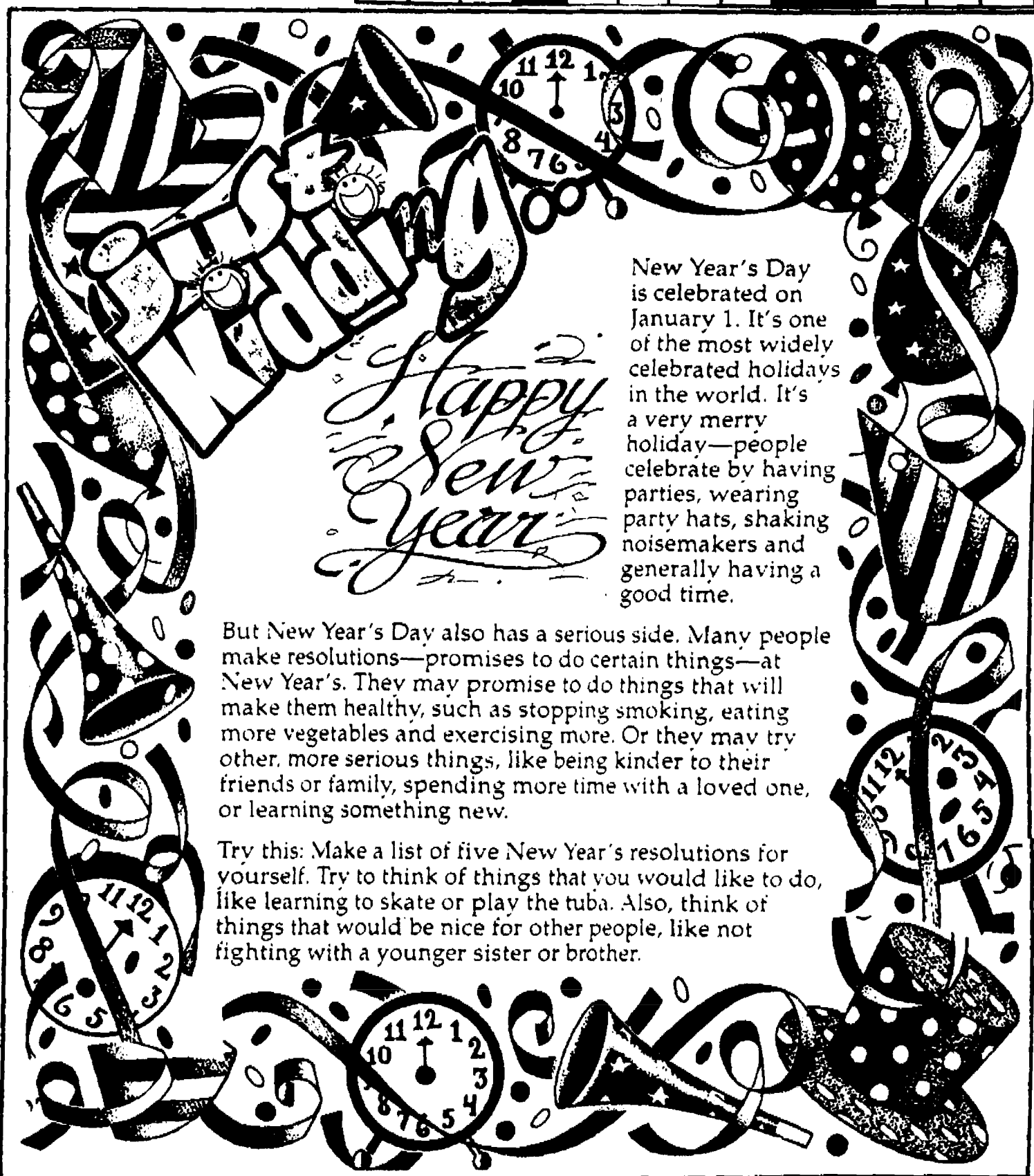
Miss Anna Buchwoe resumed her duties as teacher of the Eldorado school

Tuesday after spending the vacation at her home in Bessmer.

A New Year party was held at the Julius Kreuzer home New Years Eve. About 30 neighbors and friends gave Mrs. Mattie Funsch a pleasant surprise party Saturday evening, December 1st.

The James Cranes expect to leave Friday to spend the remainder of the winter in Louisville, Kentucky with their daughter, Mrs. Morton Kline.

NEWS 348-6811



New Year's Day is celebrated on January 1. It's one of the most widely celebrated holidays in the world. It's a very merry holiday—people celebrate by having parties, wearing party hats, shaking noisemakers and generally having a good time.

But New Year's Day also has a serious side. Many people make resolutions—promises to do certain things—at New Year's. They may promise to do things that will make them healthy, such as stopping smoking, eating more vegetables and exercising more. Or they may try other, more serious things, like being kinder to their friends or family, spending more time with a loved one, or learning something new.

Try this: Make a list of five New Year's resolutions for yourself. Try to think of things that you would like to do, like learning to skate or play the tuba. Also, think of things that would be nice for other people, like not fighting with a younger sister or brother.

WEATHER

Courtesy of the City of Grayling

Date	High	Low	Precip.	Snow on Ground	Extended forecast courtesy of the U.S. Weather Service in Gaylord: Wednesday expect mixed rain, sleet and snow, with highs in the 30s and lows in the 20s. Thursday will be dry with highs in the mid-30s to low 40s, and lows in the mid-20s to low 30s. Friday there is a chance of snow with highs in the upper 30s and lows in the upper 20s.
12/24	40	26	0.02	3.0	
12/25	26	10	0.02	4.0	
12/26	13	5	0.05	4.5	
12/27	15	-8	0.01	5.0	
12/28	27	4	0.01	5.0	
12/29	33	26	0.01	4.0	
12/30	29	16		4.0	

CLASSIFIED

Crawford County Avalanche

(517) 348-6811 • FAX (517) 348-6806

Classifieds must be paid for in advance

Display Advertising Rate - \$5.15 per column inch
Deadline for Display Classifieds - 12 Noon, Monday
Classifieds by the word rate - \$3.50 for 15 words
or less, 10¢ per each additional word
Classified by the word deadline - 12 Noon, Tuesday



1. Real Estate

AUSABLE RIVER FRONTAGE - Wendy Lane. What a setting for this home. Four bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, deck across front to watch river flow by. Attached 1 1/2 car garage, furnished. Super sharp. \$149,500. Call Hamrick Real Estate Co., P.C. 517-348-5433, evenings 348-8336. 11/7/96tf/1

240 ACRES Excellent hunting, beautiful remodeled farm home, several large outbuildings, pond. Over 2500' of river frontage, two rental units included, some fillable land. Asking \$349,000. Collins & Associates, 616-258-2699. -26-2-9/1

FOR SALE BY OWNER Two - 2 1/2 acre wooded parcels. Three miles from town on Wilcox Bridge Road. Call after 6 pm, 517-348-8851. 10/3/96tf/1

1. Real Estate

778 ACRES Last large parcel in the Northwest Lower Peninsula. Rolling and wooded with several streams and panoramic views of Six Mile Lake. Two beautiful homes, barns, abundance of wildlife. Asking \$1,100,000. Collins and Associates, 616-258-2699. -26-2-9/1

FAST GROWING real estate company looking for a licensed real estate agent. Please call Smith Realty, Inc. 517-731-3333. -26-2-9/1

HAL SOUTHARD AuSable and Manistee properties since 1940. We can help you. Call Hal, Broker. 348-5965. 9/12/96tf/1

THAT VACATION CABIN OR HOME can always be found in the Avalanche For Rent Classifieds. (517) 348-6811

1. Real Estate

CLASSIFIEDS
348-6811



Here's wishing you and yours a Very Happy 1997!

Century 21
River Country Real Estate
5688 M-72 West, Grayling

2. For Rent

DOWNTOWN GRAYLING 208 Michigan Avenue, 1,100 square feet. Call Larry at 348-5477. 10/3/96tf/2

THREE BEDROOM DUPLEX Roscommon, \$475 month, garage, no pets. 517-275-5225 12/12/96tf/2

2. For Rent

NORTHWOODS RENTALS is taking rental applications for a newly remodeled two bedroom duplex with attached garage. Heather Lane, Grayling, \$425 plus deposit. 517-275-5225. 12/12/96tf/2

2. For Rent

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT Two and three bedrooms, \$350 month. Call 348-2798, between 6 & 9 pm. Also, have mobile home lots, \$180 month, all hook-ups. -19-26-2-9/2

Real Estate Corner

with Debbie Bondar
of Century 21 River Country Real Estate

What makes an offer attractive?

"Clean" is a word often used to describe a good real estate offer. "Clean" doesn't describe the price of a house, but rather the terms of the purchase agreement. If you really want a specific house, the cleaner your offer is, the better your chances of getting the home you want.

What are the characteristics of a "clean" contract? An offer is considered "clean" if the prospective buyers are either paying all cash or are clearly qualified for a mortgage. Such an offer doesn't request the sellers to carry any of the financing or pay part of the closing costs. The contract has a closing date that coincides with the sellers' needs and isn't contingent of the sale of another home. There are no unusual requests for repairs or for articles to convey that would not ordinarily be considered a part of the property.

Making a clean offer helps in two important ways. If you are offering less than full price, it helps to make the rest of the offer as attractive as possible. Clean contracts also have an important competitive edge if there is more than one offer on the property.

For solid advice and quality service on buying or selling real estate, consult me at Century 21 River Country R. E., 517-348-5474 or visit at 5688 M-72 West.

FOUR-SEASONS MANUFACTURED HOME

Three bedrooms, two baths, just minutes from town. Possible land contract with 10% down, \$550 per month. Call today for an appointment. **MUST SELL! \$60,000. #3976.**

River Country Real Estate
5688 M-72 West, Grayling

1. Real Estate

AUSABLE MAINSTREAM Acreage, two choice parcels, paved road, virgin white pines, hardwoods, telephone, electricity, perk. 348-5965, Hal, broker. 11/21/96tf/1

200' OF COMMERCIAL FRONTAGE ON M-72 WEST Mobile home in excellent condition, good-size basement for storage and nice big drive-thru garage. A GREAT BUY FOR \$68,000. #3939. Contact SHERRY HANSON, your professional Sales Consultant.

River Country Real Estate
5688 M-72 West, Grayling
(517) 348-5474 • 348-9564 (home)

1. Real Estate

REMAX **REMAX**

Jerry Gosnell

PRIME LOCATION IN DOWNTOWN GRAYLING

Commercial building 30x98 with 2,940 sq. ft. Has basement for storage. Bathroom with hot/cold water on main floor. Central air. Backs up to alley with rear entrance for loading and unloading. Newer peaked roof. \$125,000. (JG-495)

REMAX OF GRAYLING
5729 M-72 WEST
GRAYLING, MI 49738
(517) 348-7448

1. Real Estate

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State Wide Real Estate
GRAYLING INC.
1109 North I-75 Bus. Loop, Grayling, MI 49730
(517) 348-4741 • FAX 517-348-7822
800-298-9772

REAL ESTATE

Nice ranch home in great area
Features three bedrooms, 1 3/4 baths, garage, enclosed back porch, blacktop circle drive and a breezeway that attaches the house to garage. \$55,900. #3906

Close to state land
Ranch home, perfect if you're just starting out, retirement home, or as a get-away to rest and relax. Offers two bedrooms, garage and new carpet in the living area and bedrooms. \$26,800. #3904

Tons of river frontage
21.4 acres with 800+ feet of frontage on East Branch of the AuSable River. Enjoy seclusion and acreage. Adorable three-bedroom home features lots of cupboard space in the kitchen, two garages and gorgeous property. \$188,800. #3945

Well-maintained chalet
on the banks of the AuSable River in Red Dog Club. Features three bedrooms, two-car garage, extensive decking, large windows and a great view of the river! \$107,500. #3829

Great home with much to offer
with a full basement, fireplace in the family room, three bedrooms, two baths, two-car attached garage, enclosed screened porch, four-zone hot water heating system and much more. \$78,900. #3909

Very neat and clean home
with new carpeting throughout, new hot water heater and much more. Home has a beautiful fireplace, nice screened in front porch, insulated storage shed, heated 1 1/2-car garage, all on four acres. AN EXCELLENT BUY WITH IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY! \$42,900. #3936

BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY LIVING on five acres. Well-insulated four-bedroom home with two landscaped corner lots, features could be used as a third bedroom, two bathrooms and a large two-story knotty pine ceiling, covered two bathrooms, 20x22 garage, heated pole building, ALL FOR THE LOW PRICE OF \$77,900. #3966

LOVELY THREE-BEDROOM HOME on a large beautiful lot, features could be used as a third bedroom, two bathrooms, 20x22 garage, heated pole building, ALL FOR THE LOW PRICE OF \$77,900. #3966

NICE TWO-BEDROOM MOBILE HOME on 2.25 acres. Offers a den that can be used as a third bedroom, in a fast-growing commercial strip. The home features three bedrooms and a beautiful split-stone fireplace. The shop has a private entrance and a separate bedroom facility. \$86,500. #3966

Grayling's best connection to all your real estate needs!

Open 7 days a week!

Randy Thompson-Broker
5688 M-72 West • Grayling
517-348-5474

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2. For Rent

NEW THREE BEDROOM 14x70 mobile home in Grayling Mobile Estates, close to town, cable TV, energy efficient furnace and insulation with natural gas. Senior Citizen and single person discounts available. Starting at \$450. Brand new unit available. Section 8 acceptable. Call Ron at 348-6761. 12/12/96tf/2

TWO BEDROOM MOBILE home for rent. Inquire Timberly Village Mobile Home Park, Old 27 North. 1/2/97tf/2

2. For Rent

TWO BEDROOM DUPLEX in Viking Village. No pets. Includes lawn maintenance, snow plowing and trash pick up. Utilities not included. Call Karen 616-946-4486. 12/5/96tf/2

TWO BEDROOM DUPLEX Natural gas, clean, storage, some remodeling, \$350 plus utilities, deposit, employment references. 8110 Insley Ave. (Off Margrethe Blvd.) Ph. 348-2178. 12/16/96tf/2

2. For Rent

14X70 NEWLY REMODELED MOBILE home near Lake Margrethe access, secluded lot. Taking applications. \$475 month. Call 348-1908. 2/2

GRAYLING - TWO BEDROOM HOUSE, \$400 month, plus deposit and utilities, no pets, 404 Date Street. 348-4716. 2/2

2. For Rent

NICE TWO BEDROOM HOME with garage, gas heat, jacuzzi, cable hook-up, minutes from town on E. M-72. \$450 per month, plus deposit. Call Kay 348-4864. 12/19/96tf/2

2. For Rent

ONE BEDROOM CABIN \$285 month, includes trash pickup and snowplowing. One mile from town, deposit required. 348-8713, after 5 pm. 12/19/96tf/2

2. For Rent

6470 OLD LAKE ROAD Two bedroom house, \$400., washer/dryer hookup. No pets allowed. Call Craig at RE/MAX, 348-7440 or owner in evenings, 810-348-6025. 12/16/96tf/2

1. Real Estate

1. Real Estate

1. Real Estate

RE/MAX[®] Of Grayling

1-800-731-4002 • 517-348-7440
5278 M-72 West, Grayling



JERRY GOSNELL
Valuation Specialist/Associate Broker



BONNIE ODELL
Sales Associate



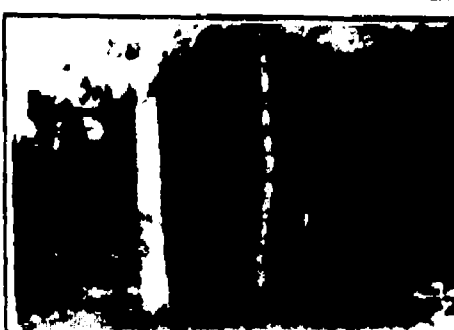
KIM MCCLAIN
Sales Associate

RECREATIONAL

RESIDENTIAL



PERFECT RETIREMENT OR STARTER HOME Very neat home on a double lot. This home offers an attached 2-car garage, two bedrooms, family room, storage building and most furnishings. Home is ready to move into! \$49,900. BSO-494



BLUE BEAR TRAIL AREA is the perfect location for this cabin, offering a large loft bedroom, bathroom, knotty pine living room and galley kitchen. If you love to snowmobile or ski, what a bargain at \$18,900. KM-406



PERFECT RECREATIONAL PROPERTY with built-over mobile that sleeps eight, full bath and is furnished. Located on small lake, close to state land and snowmobile trails. \$33,000. KM-464



BEAUTIFUL LOG HOME ON THE AUSABLE This beautiful log home offers 2,200 sq. ft. with three bedrooms, three bathrooms, great room floor plan, skylights, attached two-car garage, covered porch overlooking the river. All this and close to town. Possible terms! \$129,000. BSO-496



WELL-MAINTAINED HOME IN CITY OF GRAYLING Five-bedroom home one block from the post office in Grayling. Full basement, central air conditioning on the first floor. Detached garage. \$68,500. JG-423



3-BEDROOM HOME IN SHERWOOD FOREST Well-maintained, three-bedroom home with full basement. 16x20 deck with very appealing back yard. Newer appliances, water heater and shingles. Attached garage. Reduced \$75,000. JG-434

#1 IN SALES VOLUME IN CRAWFORD COUNTY 1995
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APARTMENTS One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three, twenty-four, twenty-five, twenty-six, twenty-seven, twenty-eight, twenty-nine, thirty, thirty-one, thirty-two, thirty-three, thirty-four, thirty-five, thirty-six, thirty-seven, thirty-eight, thirty-nine, forty, forty-one, forty-two, forty-three, forty-four, forty-five, forty-six, forty-seven, forty-eight, forty-nine, fifty, fifty-one, fifty-two, fifty-three, fifty-four, fifty-five, fifty-six, fifty-seven, fifty-eight, fifty-nine, sixty, sixty-one, sixty-two, sixty-three, sixty-four, sixty-five, sixty-six, sixty-seven, sixty-eight, sixty-nine, seventy, seventy-one, seventy-two, seventy-three, seventy-four, seventy-five, seventy-six, seventy-seven, seventy-eight, seventy-nine, eighty, eighty-one, eighty-two, eighty-three, eighty-four, eighty-five, eighty-six, eighty-seven, eighty-eight, 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Changes could come from new state school board

by Amy Daoust
Capital News Service

Michigan voters may have steered the drive for educational changes in a new direction by creating a balance between Democrats and Republicans on the State Board of Education.

The election put two more Democrats on the panel, wiping out the 6-2 majority held by Republicans and forming a 4-4 tie between the parties.

"I think this is coming at a very good time," said Rep. James Agee (D-Muskegon), vice-chair of the House Education Committee.

"The people were not happy with the current leadership of the board and they didn't like its anti-public school views," said Democratic member Kathleen Straus of Detroit.

Under Republican leadership, the board has pushed character education policies with religious references, nearly allowed creationism to be taught in public schools and crafted a mission statement that refers to students as "children of God."

But board President Clark Durant (R-Grosse Pointe) disagrees that the election results were a reaction to those policies. "The straight party vote is the reason for the change. It's not related to the message."

Democrats Marianne Yared McGuire of Detroit and Herb Moyer of Temperance join Straus and fellow Democrat Barbara Roberts Mason of Lansing.

Although that technically means an even split, the philosophical balance may have tipped to 5-3 against the education ideas of the conservative GOP majority and Gov. John Engler.

"My suspicion is that the philosophical majority is with the moderate stance and a middle-of-the-road agenda," Agee said.

That could partly be because moderate Republican Dorothy Beardmore of Rochester Hills often breaks with the conservatives and votes with the Democrats.

"Trustee Beardmore is supportive of public education," Agee said. "She is open to new ideas and votes for the side she feels is correct."

Beardmore agrees the elections means a substantial shift.

"I frankly think we'll tone down some of the rhetoric about the failures of K-12 education and then I think we'll move along," she said.

Agee said, "The public very wisely changed the direction of the state board just in the nick of time."

One of the first challenges will be electing a new president. Durant ends his two-year stint as president in January and, under board bylaws, cannot succeed himself.

Straus is interested in the job if she can muster any GOP votes to go along with the Democrats.

She wants to refocus the board's attention on improving public schools, rather than referring to them as "government" schools and looking for ways to replace them.

Straus also would like to see the board better monitor charter schools.

Beardmore said, "I don't think charter schools are going to go away, but I think there will be a little more sentiment toward monitoring what is actually happening there and having to deal with some of the unanticipated consequences of the law."

There's wide speculation about the impact of the changes.

"Anytime you lose a majority or tie, the debate on the issues is reduced," said John Truscott, the press secretary for the governor. "However, most of the government education agenda is approved by the Legislature."



BEING PINNED — Chief Warrant Officer Four Dennis Henning had his new rank pinned on by his wife (left) Tracy, as his daughter, Val, pinned his new rank on his hat.

Local officer promoted at Camp Grayling

Dennis J. Henning of Grayling was recently promoted to Chief Warrant Officer Four (CW4) at Camp Grayling Army National Guard Training Site.

Henning has served more than 26 years combined Military Service with more than 20 years in the Michigan Army National Guard. He has been a resident of Grayling for more than 24 years.

CW4 Henning entered military service with the U.S. Air Force in June 1963 after graduating from Grafton

High School, Grafton, Wisc., and trained in electronics.

During his Air Force tour he served in Texas, California and England. He then was employed by the Philco-Ford Tech Rep Division and served 30 months in Vietnam as a civilian training military personnel.

In 1970 he was cross-trained and sent to a satellite-tracking station in Thule, Greenland, for 20 months. He came to Grayling in 1972 while working for Sanford Research

Institute, Palo Alto, Calif. and in 1973 started his career with GTE with whom he is currently employed.

CW4 Henning joined the 1071st Maint Co, Michigan Army National Guard in 1973 as a Private First Class (PFC). In 1985, as a Sergeant First Class, he transferred to the Installation Support Unit and became a Warrant Officer. In ceremonies at Camp Grayling he was promoted to Chief Warrant Officer Four.

Local's son retains membership in medical group

William D. Gould, MD of San Antonio, Texas, has completed continuing medical education requirements to retain active membership in the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), the national association of family doctors.

Col. Gould lives in San Antonio with his wife and two sons, while serving in the Air Force. Lora Gould, his mother, resides in Grayling.

AAFP members are required to complete a minimum of 150 hours of accredited continuing medical study every three years. The AAFP, which has more than 75,000 members, is one of the largest medical specialty

organizations in the country. It was the first national medical group to require members to keep up with medical advancements through regular continuing medical education.

Gould has been an active AAFP member since 1980. As a family physician, Gould is qualified to work in all major areas of health care and trained to treat patients of all ages for the vast majority of health problems.

The AAFP, which is headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, provides education, legal, insurance and lobbying services to its members and publishes *American Family Physician*, a 150,000-circulation clinical journal.

RANGE FIRING

Range firing will be conducted at Camp Grayling during the period Jan. 2 through Jan. 7.

The Small Arms ranges located west of Lake Margrethe, north of Howe Road, east of the gas pipeline, and south of Portage Creek. Firing will begin on Jan. 3 and cease on Jan. 5.

The Range 40 Complex, Air to Ground, located north of County Road 612, east of Guthrie Lake, south of Old State Road 618, and west of County Road F97 (Twine Bridge Rd.). Firing will begin on Jan. 2 thru Jan. 3, and also Jan. 7.

For further information, call (517) 348-3708 or 1-800-628-5820.

Custom Rubber Stamps

Available at the AVALANCHE

Michigan still near top of 'smoking' states

by Raits Eglitis
Capital News Service

Anti-smoking forces seem to be losing ground in Michigan, failing to move the state down the ranks of the nation's leading tobacco consumers not only among adults but also teenagers.

According to annual surveys of teen use of tobacco in Michigan by the University of Michigan Survey Research Center, smoking has increased four years in a row among Michigan eighth and 10th graders and three years in a row for high school seniors.

Although the percentage of smokers in Michigan has declined in the past decade from 34 percent to about 25 percent, according to the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) numbers, it still leaves the state among the top 10 users of tobacco products, and the numbers are not improving.

A recent national survey on tobacco use by the federal Centers for Disease Control ranks Michigan in the seventh position tying it, within the margin of error of the survey, with other top smoking states such as Kentucky and Indiana.

Realizing the anti-smoking education efforts are not producing desired results, health advocates are looking for new approaches to change attitudes toward smoking.

Andrea Poniers, a project manager for the Michigan Department of Community Health tobacco section, said it's necessary to change the whole environment around people to help them quit smoking.

"Just doing education, prevention and offering cessation services has not been enough," she said. "It's time we start changing the cues, messages and the environment that support people in not smoking. We need to create the environment that says smoking is not the norm."

The American Cancer Society

(ACS) has realized one of the ways to create a non-smoking environment for the future is to prevent children from picking up the habit.

Since almost 90 percent of smokers start smoking under 18, the ACS's Great American Smokeout Nov. 21 was targeted at teenagers with a catchy, "You smoke, you choke" theme.

"If we can keep teens from smoking, we can prevent about 30 percent of cancer deaths in the future related to smoking," said Monica Goldammer, the executive director for the Great Lakes Service Center of ACS.

While the statistics for smoking adults in Michigan have remained steady for the last few years, the increase in numbers for smoking schoolchildren is worrisome.

The percentage of high school seniors who smoke increased from 28 percent in 1991 to 33 percent in 1995, according to the U-M study. That is about seven percentage points above the overall Michigan average.

"The numbers have been increasing in teenagers and in college students and it is a terrible concern," said Susan Cady, community development director at ACS Ingham County office.

The U-M study also shows the peer disapproval of cigarette use has dropped recently. In 1992, 82 percent of eighth graders and 74 percent of seniors disapproved tobacco use by their peers, then in 1995, these numbers were 79 and 68 percent.

Close to 70 percent of high school students do not perceive smoking as being a great risk to their health.

"When it comes to the dangers of smoking, a lot of young people just don't seem to get it," said Lloyd Johnston, the chief author of the U-M study.

One of the reasons why the education effort fails, officials say, is the disparity of budgets of tobacco companies and anti-smoking forces. While tobacco industry is spending an estimated \$5 billion a year on advertising and promotions, the Michigan Department

of Community Health budget for tobacco reduction activities and counter-advertising is \$5 million.

The 1995 increase in Michigan cigarette tax is a considerable contribution to the counter-advertising budget, according to Poniers.

"It is very hard to go up against tobacco companies which spend millions in ads daily. It is hard to combat that in effective ways," Cady said.

MDHC estimates the tobacco industry needs to recruit about 126,000 new smokers each year to replace those who die or quit smoking. About 90 percent of the new recruits are adolescents.

Both the federal Centers for Disease Control and the U-M Survey Research Center, found that tobacco products are readily available to minors.

The CDC study found that three-fourths of underage schoolchildren were not required to show a proof of age when purchasing cigarettes.

In the U-M survey, 76 percent of eighth graders said they can buy cigarettes fairly easy. By 10th grade this percentage increases to more than 90 percent.

The anti-smoking forces are not conceding defeat.

Ingham County has been the most successful in Michigan in cutting illegal cigarette sales to minors from 63 percent statewide to 11 percent in the county due to local ordinances and sting operations enforcing them.

Cady said she has no intention of giving up the fight against tobacco.

She said the most effective way to advocate the cause is to go out to schools and tell kids in simple terms that cigarettes contain the same chemicals as rat poison, rocket fuel and nail-polish remover.

"When kids hear that, they are horrified," she said. They ask why would one want those things in the body.

"We have to keep working. It's like Chinese water torture -- you have to keep dripping it one drop at a time."

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- Free Computerized Estimates
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- Insurance Work
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• ROSCOMMON •

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HEALTH & FITNESS
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S & K Computers
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*With Coupon • Expires 1/31/97
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97¢ with this coupon
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Valuable Coupon

J.DAP CO.
& Gifts
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(517) 348-4011
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Expires 2/5/97
Valuable Coupon

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Offer good til 2/1/97
DuBois Lumber Company
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Simply exchange this coupon for our Frequent Diner's
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filter, tire pressure & visual inspection of chassis.
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